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BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM



THE HEALTH
OF
GILLINGHAM
IN
1967

BOROUGH OF GILLINGHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

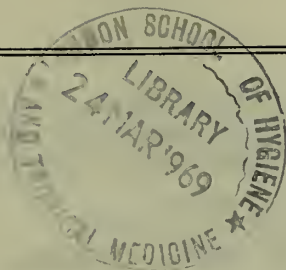
FOR THE YEAR

1967

HELEN E. MAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

Telephone : Medway OME 4 50021



Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Gillingham, Kent.

September, 1968

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Gillingham

I am pleased to submit my annual report for the year ending
31st December, 1967.

The continued expansion of the borough has produced a consequent increased demand on the health and welfare services and staffing difficulties already evident in the health visiting, midwifery and welfare fields have become more obvious and action to remedy this situation has been recommended.

The year's statistics are most encouraging - the birth rate was 18.6 per 1,000 and the death rate was 9.7 per 1,000 of the population; the infant mortality rate of 13.4 is the lowest yet reached and compares favourably with the national figure of 18.3 and shows a significant decrease in the past five years when it equalled the national figure of 21.7 in 1963.

Mr. K. E. Sewell joined the staff as chief public health inspector in February and continued the development of the environmental services.

A complete survey of the town's housing stock was made and the borough divided into areas:

- (a) where no action would be required;
- (b) where the intensified use of improvement grants and the suggestion of improvement areas would give longer life to the properties, and
- (c) the borderline twilight areas which would require attention in the near future;
- (d) areas requiring immediate detailed inspection and report.

Six of these last areas were taken as being in most urgent need of action and surveys were undertaken and reports made to the Health and Redevelopment Committees and ten clearance areas were represented to the Council.

The incidence of infectious diseases remained very satisfactory. Again the fairly high number of measles cases are reported and vaccination to meet these continued epidemics is being undertaken in the near future.

The wisdom of the Council in the appointment of an old people's liaison officer to assist the voluntary Old People's Welfare Council as its secretary to provide new services for the elderly is evident from his report and shows the progress that has been made in meeting the needs of the elderly in the town.

I am pleased to report that the attachment of midwives and district nurses to the general practitioners has met with success and is appreciated by the family doctor and the attachment of health visitors will continue as soon as there are enough staff to cover the practices, but this is made difficult to organise by the fragmentation of the general practitioner service into small units and can be easy and successful in the practices which have combined to form a group.

It is unlikely that we shall be able to record much new development in the services in the next year in view of the severe costs in the available resources for local authority health and welfare services but we shall continue to plan and make proposals for improvements and developments in the field of community health.

I would like to thank the Health Committee and the Council for their encouragement and support and the members of the staff for their help during the year.

HELEN E. MAIR

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH, SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE AND COUNTY COUNCIL
DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

Helen E. Mair, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

C. D. Rosenwald, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

L. M. Corall, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

W. Tooby, M.B., B.S. (Lon.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

E. S. Linton, M.B., B.S., D.G.O., L.M., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., M.M.S.A.

Ophthalmologist: (S.H.S.)

K. N. Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.O. (part-time)
(commenced 13.1.1967)

Dental Surgeons: (S.H.S.)

E. D. Gimson, B.D.S.

A. W. Wallace, L.D.S. (part-time)

S. E. Brown, L.D.S. (part-time)

Dental Surgery Assistants: (S.H.S.)

A. F. Wootton

A. E. Turner

Chief Public Health Inspector:

K. E. Sewell, M.R.S.H., M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I. (a,c,d,e)
(commenced 13.2.1967)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

N. Smith, M.A.P.H.I. (a,c,d,e)

Public Health Inspectors:

R. Nethercott (b)

J. A. Croydon, A.R.S.H. (a,c)

J. E. Gibson, M.A.P.H.I. (a,c,d)

B. J. Naylor (a,c)

- a. Public health inspectors certificate
- b. Public health inspectors diploma
- c. Meat and other foods certificate
- d. Smoke inspectors certificate
- e. Diploma in sanitary science

Student Public Health Inspectors:

J. P. Chatfield (resigned 4.8.1967)
P. J. Payne
R. M. Manktelow (commenced 4.9.1967)

Technical Assistants:

R. Taylor
B. C. Woodard

Health Visitor Group Adviser:

M. M. Byrne, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

Health Visitors: (D.H.S./S.H.S.)

B. M. Fry, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (resigned 6.1.1967)
J. Tombleson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
D. G. Purt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
F. M. Tomlin, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time
14.9.1967)
W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
J. A. Hewitt, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time)
E. C. Tomlinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
J. H. Mason, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
D. Bugbee, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (resigned 30.6.1967)
E. M. Turner, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
M. A. Crystal, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (part-time)
M. E. Cox, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.
B. Kemp, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert. (commenced 20.11.1967)

District Nurses: (D.H.S.)

J. P. Davis, S.R.N.
O. Fenske, S.R.N.
A. J. A. Finnis, S.R.N.
E. J. Flynn, S.R.N.
F. M. McGargle, S.R.N.
E. M. Masson, S.R.N.
M. H. Rayner, S.R.N., S.C.M.
I. Read, S.R.N.
A. T. Stonehouse, S.R.N.
K. T. Stoves, S.R.N.
M. Turpin, S.R.N.
H. Waterman, S.R.N. (retired 20.3.1967)
E. B. Willoughby, S.R.N.
B. D. Frapple, S.E.A.N.
J. Greengrass, S.R.N. (part-time) (resigned 11.6.1967)
K. Wales, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 1.4.1967)
J. Smith, S.R.N., S.C.M. (temporary) (commenced 7.6.1967,
resigned 8.10.1967)

Midwives: (D.H.S.)

M. A. Baldwin, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 E. Daly, S.R.N., S.C.M. (retired 30.11.1967)
 K. Holland, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 V. C. Sullivan, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 K. Lowry, S.C.M.
 G. M. McGregor, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 M. M. Shorey, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 S. I. Shorey, S.E.A.N., S.C.M.
 B. E. Foote, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 M. E. White, S.C.M.
 V. K. L. Ng, S.R.N., S.C.M. (resigned 30.7.1967)
 P. A. Hosie, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 1.12.1967)
 M. Clayton, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 1.8.1967)
 W. Waygood, S.R.N., S.C.M. (temporary -
 commenced 6.11.1967)

Principal Welfare Officer:

P. E. King

Welfare Officer:

J. M. Preston

Craft Instructor:

G. H. Gibson

Home Teacher for the Blind:

A. J. Smith

Welfare Officer for the Deaf:

A. B. Masson

Home Help Organisers:

M. Sharp
 M. Higgins (appointed 1.4.1967)

Old People's Liaison Officer:

F. S. Booker

Chief Administrative Assistant:

S. Pett, T.D.

Senior Administrative Assistant:

M. M. McKeen

Clerks:

R. C. Thomas (S.H.S.)
B. Taylor
A. D. Negus
C. Kirkpatrick (resigned 29.9.1967)
P. Jevans (D.H.S.)
P. Rome (D.H.S.)
J. Weir (D.H.S.)
J. James (D.H.S.) (commenced 24.4.1967)
G. Hart (D.H.S.)
M. M. Prince (D.H.S.)
M. Wooder (D.H.S.) (commenced 2.10.1967)
J. O'Connor (D.H.S.) (commenced 29.8.1967)
N. Lacey (D.H.S.) (resigned 18.8.1967)
J. Clark
N. Pett (clinic clerk - D.H.S.)
C. Nethercott (clinic clerk - D.H.S.)

M.O.H. Secretary:

K. M. Kingsland

Shorthand/typist:

M. C. Barnes

N.B. - D.H.S. - Delegated Health Service
S.H.S. - School Health Service

GENERAL HEALTH
STATISTICS

GULLINGHAM 1967

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres (land, inland water and foreshore)	11,123
Rateable value (April, 1967)	£2,746,670
The sum represented by a penny rate (1967-68) ..	£11,550
In 1967-68 the total rate was 10/10 and the water rate 1/2 in the £.	

Extracts from vital statistics

Total population (Registrar-General)	83,930
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Live Births:

Number of live births	1,563
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	18.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.9

Stillbirths:

Number of stillbirths	21
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ..	13.2
Total live and still births	1,584
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	21

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	13.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	13.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	16.1
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	8.3
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	5.7
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	18.9

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths -
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 0.0

Deaths (all causes)

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population 9.7

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live births	830	772	58	733	667	66
Still births	12	11	1	9	7	2
<u>Deaths of infants</u>						
Under 1 year of age	10	9	1	11	10	1
Under 4 weeks of age	5	5	-	8	7	1
Under 1 week of age	2	2	-	7	6	1

Analysis of Infant Deaths during 1967

Causes of Death	Age at Death	
	Total under 1 month	Total under 1 year
Congenital malformations	2	2
Pneumonia	2	5
Enteritis	4	1
Other respiratory diseases	4	-
Prematurity	4	-
Other causes	1	-
Total:	13	8

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 21, which represents an infant mortality rate of 13.4 per 1,000 live births.

The rate for England and Wales was 18.3 per 1,000 relative live births.

Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births
for Gillingham from 1963-1967:

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Rate per</u> <u>1,000</u>	<u>England and Wales</u> <u>Rate per 1,000</u>
1963	31	21.7	20.9
1964	26	17.6	20.0
1965	28	18.3	19.0
1966	22	13.9	19.0
1967	21	13.4	18.3

Maternal mortality:

There were no deaths associated with pregnancy.

Causes of deaths for the year 1967
as provided by the Registrar-General

Causes of Death						Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..		1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases					1	1	2
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..			4	7	11
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..				46	7	53
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..		1	24	25
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..		-	5	5
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms					40	39	79
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..		4	5	9
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	-	4	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..				41	59	100
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..		116	80	196
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..			2	18	20
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	15	40	55
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..		21	15	36
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	29	23	52
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	29	10	39
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..				3	-	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..			2	3	5
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..				1	4	5
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..		-	2	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..		8	-	8
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..			-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..		1	5	6
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases					23	45	68
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..		2	4	6
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	7	2	9
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..			-	-	-
All causes						405	407	812

Deaths in Public Institutions:

380 or 46.8% of the total, took place in institutions.

Natural Increase of Population:

<u>Year</u>								<u>Natural Increase of Population</u>
1958	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	413
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	421
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	509
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	446
1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	528
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	549
1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	651
1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	661
1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	757
1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	751

Cancer

						<u>Cancer Death Rate</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Deaths</u>
1958	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	18.6
1959	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	17.5
1960	..	..	..	..	..	2.0	20.7
1961	..	..	..	..	..	2.2	19.3
1962	..	..	..	..	..	2.2	19.6
1963	..	..	..	..	..	1.9	16.7
1964	..	..	..	..	..	2.1	20.0
1965	..	..	..	..	..	2.0	18.6
1966	..	..	..	..	..	2.2	22.5
1967	..	..	..	..	..	2.1	21.3

Violence

Deaths from motor vehicle accidents numbered 6, from suicides 9 and from "all other accidents" 10.

ANALYSIS OF BIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS FOR THE YEARS 1958 to 1967

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Number of still births	24	31	28	28	26	35	19	17	25	21
Number of neo-natal deaths ..	20	19	13	23	17	16	16	18	14	13
Total number of still births and neo-natal deaths	44	40	41	51	43	51	35	35	39	34
Number of deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	9	5	6	5	10	15	10	10	8	8
Number of live births	1208	1232	1268	1264	1363	1425	1476	1537	1580	1563
Number of still births	24	31	28	28	26	35	19	17	25	21
Total live and still births ..	1232	1263	1296	1292	1389	1460	1495	1554	1605	1584

MORTALITY RATES CALCULATED PER 1,000 BIRTHS

Still births.. ..	19	24	22	22	19	24	13	11	15	13
Neo-natal deaths.. ..	16	15	10	18	12	11	11	12	9	8
Perinatal deaths.. ..	-	13	23	37	30	33	21	22	24	19
Deaths of infants 1 to 12 months of age	7	4	4	4	7	10	7	6	5	5
Still births and all deaths up to 1 year	43	44	36	39	39	45	30	29	29	27
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	24	19	15	22	20	22	18	18	14	13

Prevalence of, and Control Over Infectious and Other Diseases

Table showing:- (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1967.
 (b) The number removed to hospital.

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)							Removed to Hospital
	Years							
	All Ages	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	Age Unknown	
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	5	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
Influenzal meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Menigicoccal meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table showing: (a) The distribution in age groups of infectious disease cases notified during 1967.
(b) The number removed to hospital

Notifiable Disease	CASES NOTIFIED (Diagnosis Corrected)										Removed to Hospital
	Years										
	All Ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age Unknown		
Scarlet fever	23	-	-	6	15	1	-	-	1	-	
Whooping cough	32	-	8	4	15	2	1	1	1	-	
Acute poliomyelitis..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles.. .. .	445	22	120	126	156	8	4	-	9	-	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peurperal pyrexia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	

Particulars of patients from the Gillingham area dealt with at the Chest Clinic during 1967.

(These figures were kindly supplied by Dr. F. Temple-Clive, Consultant Chest Physician).

	Adults		Children		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis:						
Pulmonary	10	12	2	-	12	12
Non-pulmonary	-	2	-	-	-	2
Total:	10	14	2	-	12	14

Total attendances numbered 1,247.

Number of patients sent to sanatorium or hospital - 7.

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Number on Register at 1st January, 1967 ..	460	88	548
Number on Register at 31st December, 1967	417	77	494

Notifications:

Table compiled from local records, giving details with regard to sex, age, etc. of notified new cases during 1967.

Age periods	New cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-
5-14 years	1	-	-	-
15-24 years	2	1	-	-
25-44 years	1	5	-	-
45-64 years	2	-	-	-
65 and over	2	-	-	-
Total:	8	6	-	-

Tuberculosis Death Rate

The following table is inserted for the purposes of comparison:

Year	Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		
	All Forms	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1958	0.12	0.12	0.00
1959	0.09	0.09	0.00
1960	0.02	0.02	0.00
1961	0.11	0.11	0.00
1962	0.05	0.04	0.01
1963	0.08	0.05	0.03
1964	0.01	0.00	0.01
1965	0.11	0.11	0.00
1966	0.05	0.05	0.00
1967	0.01	0.01	0.00

Venereal Diseases

I am indebted to Dr. C.D. Routh, Director of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee's Special Clinic in Rochester, for the following figures:

New patients - Gillingham:

Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Gonorrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Other conditions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Total:	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>122</u>

Nursing Homes - Public Health Act, 1936

There were two nursing homes on the register at the end of the year, which provided 39 beds for aged persons.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)

During the year three persons who were in need of care and attention were removed to hospital.

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH
SERVICES

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

During the greater part of 1967 the public health inspectors' section was at full establishment and once again it was possible to undertake a large amount of routine work. The number of visits made for general housing purposes increased by about 50% and there was a marked increase in the visits made for rodent and pest control.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Purpose and Number of Visits made during the year

[illegible]

Notices served during the year:

[illegible]

Housing Acts	17
Public Health Acts	136
Gillingham Corporation Act	25
Clean Air Act	5

HOUSING

Slum clearance

A preliminary survey of the older housing stock of the borough was made during the spring and this revealed certain areas that required detailed house to house inspection.

Nine areas were scheduled for detailed survey, three of which were inspected and reported on during the year, in addition inspections had commenced on two further areas. A small area was dealt with prior to this programme.

Ten small clearance areas containing a total of 38 houses were represented following the surveys and resulted in three compulsory purchase orders relating to 34 houses and one other building and a clearance order for seven houses.

During 1967 representations were made in respect of 18 houses and two basements or parts of buildings.

Five demolition and twelve closing orders were made. Five closing orders were determined where the owners had made the houses fit for human habitation.

Houses in multiple occupation

28 inspections were made during the year and any improvements necessary were normally obtained by informal action. There were no cases where the conditions were such as to require serving a management order, a direction order or a control order.

Overcrowding

25 complaints were received, all were investigated and in five cases overcrowding was confirmed. Six re-inspections were also made.

Repairs and general housing matters

Houses needing repairs were mainly discovered as a result of the investigation of complaints but in many cases the need for repairs was found during survey of the area or during a visit for some other purpose.

A summary of the housing work carried out during the year is given below.

Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year

Number of houses inspected for housing defects	661
Number of inspections made for the purpose	2,833
Number found to be unfit for habitation	54
Number found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	546

Remedy of defects by informal action

Number of houses rendered fit as a consequence of informal action	76
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Action under statutory powers

(a) under the Public Health Acts

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served	136
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
By owners	16
By local authority	3

(b) under the Housing Acts

Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	17
Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	19
Number of demolition orders made	5
Number of closing orders made	12
Houses demolished as a result of formal action	21
Closing orders determined	5

Common lodging houses

There are no common lodging houses in the borough.

CONTROL OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISESFood hygiene

There are 633 premises in the borough from which food is sold and these are classified in the following main categories:

Type of business	Total	No.complying with Reg.16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
Cafes, restaurants	30	30	30	30
Fishmongers	28	28	28	28
Baker/bakehouses	26	26	26	26
Butchers	59	59	59	59
Grocers	134	134	32	32
Fruiterers, etc.	62	62	62	62
General shops	294	294	28	28

The policy of cooperation with the traders continues, encouraging them to adopt and maintain the standard of good hygiene that is required in the food trade. Visits, discussions and advice were again effective in raising the standard in many premises.

The following visits were made to food premises by the public health inspectors during the year:

Cafes, restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	143
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	16
Bakers/bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	17
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	67
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	140
Fruiterers/greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	19
General shops	..	..	..	..	..	100

Routine inspections revealed the need for improvements both structural and in the handling of food at certain premises and in every case the occupiers attention was drawn to these shortcomings.

A grocery/general food shop was found to be run in an unhygienic manner and nine summonses were issued under the Food .

Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 - at the hearing the summonses were adjourned sine die on the application of the Council, 6 matters having received satisfactory attention and the occupier, having decided to sell only wrapped food at the premises.

There are 60 premises in the borough registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16 for the manufacturer of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food. All of these premises have received regular inspections.

Visits were also made to various fairs, fetes and sports meetings to ensure that the catering arrangements were satisfactory.

Food and Drugs - sampling, etc.

218 samples of various foods and 22 samples of medicines and drugs were taken and submitted to the public analyst for examination.

The main classification of the samples with results is given as follows:

	Total	Unsatisfactory		Total	Unsatisfactory
Dairy products	23	-	Drugs	22	-
Fruit & fruit products	36	1	Meat products	38	2
Cereals & cereal products	12	1	Poultry products	4	-
Sugar products	40	2	Vegetable products	21	-
Fermentation products	1	2	Soft drinks	10	2
Soups	1	-	Fats and oils	2	-
Coffee, cocoa	3	-	Fish products	9	1
Spices	7	-	Nut products	4	1
Food additives	7	-	Mineral adjuncts	-	-

Brief particulars regarding the unsatisfactory samples are as follows:

1. A sample of sherry filled chocolates was found to contain 5.4% proof spirit, which was a little low for this type of product. This case was taken up with the manufacturer.
2. A packet of almond marzipan had an almond content of 23% whereas it should have contained 25%, this was probably due to poor mixing or to a variation in the natural moisture content of the almonds.
3. A sample of lime cordial and lager contained 1.0% proof spirit as opposed to a reasonable figure of not less than 1.5%. The manufacturers were informed of this unsatisfactory report.
4. The label on a packet of dessert wafers was found to be unsatisfactory as it did not show that the food contained a permitted colour. The manufacturers agreed to design a new label for this product.
5. A jar of strawberry jam had a slight deficiency in soluble solids, 63.7% as against the required minimum of 65%. The manufacturers were advised on this deficiency.
6. A can of a product described as Cola and rum was found to contain proof spirit 0.9% a reasonable standard for a product so described is 1.5% to 2.0% proof. The manufacturers stated several authorities had raised this point and an alternative description for this product would be used in future.
7. Dressed crab taken as a sample was found to contain 86% crab meat, the label declared the content as 95%. The importers were informed and advised as to the label, a subsequent sample was found to contain 96%.
8. Pork sausages were found on being sampled to contain 31% lean meat, a slight deficiency in that the lean meat content should be not less than 32.5%. The vendors and manufacturers were informed, the deficiency was attributed to bad mixing.

9. Fruit drops were found to contain permitted colours, though not obligatory it was felt that the added colours should have been included in the list of ingredients and the manufacturers were advised.
10. The label on a bottle of malt vinegar listed salt as an ingredient but the amount of salt found 0.03% hardly justified its declaration in the list of ingredients.
11. Fruit dragees purchased as a sample were found to contain a colour Blue VRS which is no longer permitted. The manufacturers withdrew the remaining stocks of the food and ceased to use the colour.
12. A sample of pork chipolata sausages was found to contain undeclared preservative. Inspection of the shop revealed that a suitable notice was displayed but temporarily obscured by goods, this was remedied.

Pesticide residues in foodstuffs

The first year of the Pesticide Residues in Food Survey was completed in July. The five samples allocated to the borough were taken and residues were not detected in tea or pasteurised milk. The residues found in samples of mixed dried fruit, raw carrots and long grain rice were well below the accepted maximum.

During the second year of the Scheme from August, 1967 to July, 1968 a further five samples will be taken in the borough.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the borough. One sample of liquid egg was obtained from a trader and the public analyst reported that the sample satisfied the Alpha-Amylase test.

Ice cream

There are four manufacturers and 326 vendors of ice cream on the register. These premises are regularly inspected and 125 visits were made specifically for this purpose.

68 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological

examination: the results were as follows:

Grade 1 = 56 Grade 2 = 5 Grade 3 = 6 Grade 4 = 1

Food complaints

The total number of food complaints received during the year was 48, of these two were made by food retailers, five came from schools and the remaining 41 from members of the public.

In nine cases the food was found to be satisfactory and in two other cases the long delay between purchase and complaint prevented accurate assessment of the condition of the food at the time of sale.

The remaining 37 cases, of which the nine listed were of a sufficiently serious nature as to require consideration by the Health Committee were all investigated in detail.

1. Parts of insect (mosquito species) in loaf of bread, warning letter sent to manufacturer.
2. Steak and kidney pie delivered to a retailer after having previously been delivered and marked by another retailer, warning letter sent to manufacturers.
3. Mould on pork sausages, warning letter sent to retailer.
4. Stale sausage and onion patty containing mould growths, retailer who was also the manufacturer fined £20 and ordered to pay 5 guineas costs.
5. Sausage roll with mould growths on the meat filling, warning letter sent to retailer.
6. Bottle of milk soiled internally, warning letter to bottler.
7. Battenburg cake containing a piece of glass, manufacturer fined £20 and ordered to pay 7 guineas costs.
8. Sliced loaf containing carpet tack, manufacturer fined £25 and ordered to pay 5 guineas costs.

9. Steak and kidney pie affected by mould growths, retailers jointly fined £20 and ordered to pay £5 17s. Od. costs.

The complaints in the other 28 cases that were investigated were found to be fully justified and the retailer or manufacturers were made aware of the facts in each case.

Milk

All milk sold in Gillingham is produced and bottled outside the borough. There are three depots and 231 other distributors such as retail shops.

At the end of the year 338 licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963/1965 were in operation.

161 for pasteurised milk
171 for sterilised milk
5 for ultra heat treated milk
1 for untreated milk

40 samples of milk were taken and examined by the inspectors on the Gerber apparatus. All were satisfactory and the following table is a summary of the results.

	Fat	Solids not fat	Total solids
Highest	4.2%	9.0%	12.9%
Lowest	3.4%	8.4%	11.9%
Average	3.8%	8.7%	12.4%

112 samples of pasteurised milk, 94 from supplies to the public and 18 from supplies to schools, were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. 9 of the samples failed the methylene blue test and 2 failed both the methylene blue and phosphatase tests. All failures were fully investigated and follow-up samples were satisfactory.

27 samples of sterilised milk were taken and examined and all passed the approved test.

2 samples of dried milk were taken from a clinic for chemical analysis and were found to be satisfactory.

5 samples of cream were taken for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory.

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

At the end of the year there was only one licence for the sale of untreated milk in operation. No untreated milk was sold in the borough during the year and no samples of this type of milk were taken.

Poultry Processing

There are no poultry processing establishments in the borough.

Unsound food

During the year 2 tons. 17 cwts. 2 qtrs. 7 lbs. of various foods were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Council has agreed in principle to include the whole borough in smoke control areas. The provisional programme envisaged that this could be done by 1970. The work has been held up firstly due to a shortage of suitable fuels, secondly to allow an area to be dovetailed with an adjoining authority's area and finally by a public inquiry on area no. 4.

The progress to date is indicated below:

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Date of Operation</u>
1	812	5638	1st November, 1962
2	1946	1362	1st November, 1963
3	1002	1614	1st November, 1965
4	292	1475	1st July, 1967

1,080 visits and inspections were made concerning adaptations to premises in area no. 4 and 998 visits and inspections were made in connection with the proposed area no. 5.

Apart from those made in respect of area no. 4 and proposed area no. 5 a further 114 visits were made, these included some specific complaints, inspections of new or modified industrial installations and routine observations particularly of dwellings in areas covered by smoke control orders.

During the year approval was given for a new furnace and boiler installation under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

SHOPS, OFFICES, FACTORIESOffices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Work carried out during the year consisted of the registration of new premises, registration following changes in occupation, routine reinspection and accident investigation.

When premises were found to be below the required standard those concerned were informed verbally and advised the best means to meet the requirements, written confirmation was given in every case. 114 contraventions were found, absence of O.S.R.G. notices, unsatisfactory provision of drinking water and absence of thermometers were the most common contraventions.

Once again I am able to report that cooperation from owners was generally excellent and it was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings.

669 visits of all kinds were made to registered premises during the year and no exemption was issued.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. registered during the year	Total no. registered at end of year	No. receiving general inspection
Offices	6	122	6
Retail shops	28	375	27
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	12	1
Catering establishments	5	34	5
Fuel storage premises	-	1	-
Totals	40	544	39

Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	1016
Retail shops	1887
Wholesale shops, warehouses	122
Catering establishments	361
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	42
Total	3428
Total males	1215
Total females	2213

Accidents in Offices, shops, etc.

10 accidents were reported during 1967 compared with 21 in 1966 and 25 in 1965 and the circumstances in 4 of the cases warranted detailed investigation. As in previous years the cause of the accident was in the majority of cases beyond the employer's control and often due to carelessness on the part of the employee.

Summary of accident statistics for 1967

Type of Premises	No. of accidents		No. investi- gated	No. due to contra- vention	No. fatal
	Males	Females			
Retail shops	-	7	3	-	-
Storerooms	-	-	-	-	-
Garages	-	-	-	-	-
Catering establish- ments	-	2	1	-	-
Other	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	9	4	-	-

Summary of contraventions found

	Offices	Shops (retail)	Wholesale shops and warehouses	Catering establishments	Fuel stores, etc.	Totals
Thermometers	5	4	-	2	-	11
First-aid requirements	1	5	-	-	-	6
Hot or warm water	2	1	-	-	-	3
Washbasin and sinks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	-	2	-	-	-	2
Repairs or markings of S.C.	1	5	-	-	-	6
Heating	-	8	-	-	-	8
Lighting	3	2	-	-	-	5
Ventilation	1	1	-	-	-	2
Overcrowding	2	-	-	-	-	2
Guards on machinery	-	5	-	-	-	5
Seating facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSRG notices	2	25	-	4	-	31
Handrails	-	3	-	-	-	3
Cleanliness/redecorations	3	5	1	-	-	9
Drinking water supply	8	12	1	-	-	21
Total contraventions	28	78	2	6	-	114

Summary of contraventions outstanding at end of year

	Offices	Shops (retail)	Wholesale shops and warehouses	Catering establishments	Fuel stores, etc.	Totals
Thermometers	1	2	-	1	-	4
First-aid requirements	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hot or warm water	1	1	-	-	-	2
Washbasin and sinks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs or markings of S.C.	1	1	-	-	-	2
Heating	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lighting	2	-	-	-	-	2
Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	1	-	-	-	-	1
Guards on machinery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seating facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
OSRG notices	1	8	-	2	-	11
Handrails	-	1	-	-	-	1
Cleanliness/redecorations	2	1	-	-	-	3
Drinking water supply	4	2	-	-	-	6
Total contraventions	13	17	-	3	-	33

Factories

The enforcement of the provisions of the Factories Act for which the Council is responsible presented no difficulties during the year and 54 inspections were made. Two defects were found and were promptly remedied by informal action.

The prescribed tables requested in Ministry of Health circular 1/68 are given below.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961
Part I of the Act

- 1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by public health inspectors)

Premises	No. on Reg.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	29	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	117	35	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	6	9	-	-
Total:	152	54	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers

78 outworkers were on the August list as required by Section 133 of the Factories Act and all of these were engaged in the making of wearing apparel. 42 inspections were made and no premises were found to be in a dirty or unwholesome condition.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

The number of complaints received during 1967 of both rats and mice was very near to the total for 1966, compared with that year rat complaints rose from 267 to 272 and mouse complaints fell from 152 to 144. The increase in the number of complaints received in recent years particularly the sharp increase in 1966 appears to have tailed off as was expected.

There was a marked increase during the year in the number of premises surveyed and visited particularly in connection with agricultural infestations.

A summary of rodent control undertaken during the year is given hereunder:

Complaints and Surface Infestations

	Business		Private		Agricultural		L.A.	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
Complaints received	41	24	200	109	25	1	6	10
Premises surveyed	42	28	285	144	26	1	6	11
Premises treated	42	27	212	106	26	1	5	10
Visits made	209	138	1506	632	225	8	28	50
Major infestations	3	1	2	-	-	-	1	-

Sewer Treatment

Total number of manholes	1,898
Number of manholes treated	468
Poison base used	24½ lbs
Bait base used	469½ lbs

Three of the major infestations were on open ground and woodland, two in private chicken runs and one in an old quarry. All were successfully treated and cleared by the department. The major infestation of mice was also cleared up.

The Council's refuse tip was visited regularly during the year, treated as necessary and presented no problem.

17 sewers and drains were found to be defective as a result of rodent investigations and were subsequently repaired.

The total number of visits made during the year in respect of rodent control was 2,796.

Other Pest Control

The department gave advice and assistance on various other pests as follows:

Ants	1	Rabbits	2
Fleas and bugs	12	Cockroaches	1
Wasps and bees	3		

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERSSwimming baths

The five swimming baths and the one children's paddling pool were in fairly constant use during the season and bacteriological samples were taken from all of them. Sometimes a slightly unsatisfactory result was obtained due to a low residual chlorine content and the desired improvement was effected by adjusting the dosage.

Strand Swimming Bath

A detailed inspection of the bath during 1966 revealed structural decay of the refreshment kiosk, changing rooms and other ancillary buildings. The layout was unsatisfactory by present day standards in that persons wearing outdoor shoes could reach the immediate surrounds of the bath.

The necessary improvements were approved and the work completed ready for the re-opening in May, 1967. I am pleased to report that it is now necessary to pass through a foot bath in order to reach the surrounds of the swimming bath and that the ancillary buildings have been brought up to the required standard. A small amount of spectator space has been provided from which the immediate surrounds of the pool can be reached only after passing through the footbath.

The following table is a summary of the results obtained from samples taken:

Source	No. of samples	No. of samples showing		
		Coliform Bacilli	E. Coli	High plate count
Strand bath	16	-	-	-
Strand paddling pool	2	2	2	2
Fairview School	8	5	3	4
Grammar School	2	-	-	1
Wakeley Road School	10	-	-	2
Upbury Manor School	6	1	-	1

Drainage

A summary of the work carried out in this field during the year is given below:

Inspections - public sewers	..	..	..	..	..	156
Inspection - drains	..	..	..	..	..	502
Reinspections	..	..	..	..	..	612
Smoke tests	..	..	..	..	..	38
Water tests	..	..	..	..	..	80
Drains repaired, altered or reconstructed	..	..				11
Sewers repaired, altered or reconstructed	..	..				15
Cesspools emptied	..	..	..	..	..	246
Cesspool drainage connected to sewer	..	..	..			-
Choked drains and sewers cleansed	..	..	..			906

Infectious disease

270 visits were made for the purpose of investigating infectious disease. These were all routine enquiries on sporadic cases.

Keeping of animals, etc.

There are 18 piggeries and other premises in the borough the occupiers of which are licensed to operate plant under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

42 visits were made to these premises which were satisfactory.

Two licences under the Riding Establishments Act, 1964 were in force during the year. One of these licences expired in September and no application for renewal was made. The second licence was valid for one year from February, 1967 but the premises ceased to be used for this purpose. Both the premises were inspected by the public health inspector and by the veterinary officer.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the occupier of an unlicensed and unsatisfactory riding establishment, the defendant pleaded guilty and was given an absolute discharge.

There were at the end of the year six premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951. These received regular visits and at one premises it was necessary to draw the attention of the occupier to certain shortcomings which were remedied.

At the end of the year four licences were in operation under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963. All were inspected by the public health inspector and by the veterinary officer and were found to be satisfactory.

Caravans

Gypsies occasionally pull their caravans on to sites on the outskirts of the borough. They are liable to cause both a public health nuisance and annoyance to local residents. 69 visits were made during the year and the inspectors were usually successful in persuading the gypsies to move fairly quickly.

Noise abatement

The Public Health Act, 1936 as amended by the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 makes a nuisance from noise or vibration a statutory nuisance.

Complaints were received concerning noise or vibration from industrial premises in close proximity to dwelling houses. The investigation of noise complaints is always difficult but the necessary improvements were effected by cooperation with the occupiers of the factories. 87 visits were made for this purpose during the year.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There were on the register at the end of the year 15 dealers occupying 11 sites. Two visits were made to these premises.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewerage

There are some deficiencies in the existing sewerage system but these will be rectified as and when the older parts of the town are redeveloped. New sewers are being laid at the present time to deal with the development areas to the east of the borough.

Sewage disposal

The following information has been provided by the General Manager of the Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Joint Sewerage Board:

"Progress has continued to be good in both sectors of the Joint Board's extension programme. Work on the second stage of trunk sewer construction, namely the section from Eastcourt Lane, Gillingham to Vines Lane, Rochester, continues at a good pace, construction going on simultaneously at a number of points throughout the three towns.

The programme of work making up the W.1 Contract of Works Extensions is now drawing to a close. Most of the Civil Engineering Work has been completed within the year and a great part of the mechanical and electrical equipment has been installed.

Some limited plant has already been brought into use (the sludge consolidation tanks), and has been shown to work well. It is of interest to note that even though these tanks have worked so well, there is already evidence of larger volumes of sludge reaching the Works, presumably a direct result of putting some part of the new sewer and siphons to work.

It is to be expected that some section of the newly constructed inlet works will be put to use early next year and the whole of the extended works will be commissioned by the spring.

A report on the second phase of the Works extensions

(W.2 Contract) was submitted to the Board in the later part of the year by Messrs. Howard Humphreys and Sons, Consulting Engineers, and dealt principally with sludge drying and processing. The recommendation was for heat treatment followed by sludge pressing and the scheme has now to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The estimated cost is £780,000.

WATER

The public water supply of the area is provided by the Medway Water Board and is satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The following information has been provided by the chemist and bacteriologist of the Medway Water Board.

Summary of Results of Bacteriological Analyses

Sources of samples	No. of samples	No. of samples showing	
		Coli Aerogenes	E. Coli
Gore P.S. - untreated water	45	1	None
Gore P.S. - treated water	45	None	None
Luton P.S. - untreated water	56	6	2
Luton P.S. - treated water	56	None	None
Matts Hill P.S. - untreated water	102	79	64
Matts Hill P.S. - treated water	102	None	None
Rainham P.S. - untreated water	49	None	None
Rainham P.S. - treated water	49	None	None
Snodhurst P.S. - untreated water	51	None	None
Snodhurst P.S. - treated water	51	None	None
Belmont Scheme - treated water	51	None	None

Chemical Analyses 1967
(Results in p.p.m.)

	Gore treated	Luton treated	Matts Hill treated	Rainham treated	Snodhurst treated	Belmont treated
Appearance	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear
Turbidity	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.1	7.2	7.2	8.1	7.2	7.2
Electric conductivity	670	550	490	420	500	485
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	280	265	260	200	270	260
Temp. hardness	270	242	242	30	255	240
Perm. hardness	100	42	34	15	33	34
Total hardness	370	284	276	45	288	274
Chloride (as cl)	34	26	20	28	23	22
Ammoniacal N	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.32	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid N	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrate N	7.0	6.8	3.2	Nil	3.1	3.0
Nitrite N	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
KmnO ₄ oxygen	0.10	0.12	0.10	0.20	0.16	0.12
Residual chlorine	0.05	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.07	0.02
Iron (as Fe)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Fluoride (as F)	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.2	Nil	Nil
Number of samples examined during 1967	4	4	4	2	3	4

All the Board's sources of supply have been examined specifically for plumbo-solvent action and in no instance was a tendency to be plumbo-solvent found.

With the exception of Rainham and Snodhurst where marginal chlorination is carried out the remaining sources are super-chlorinated and dechlorinated after a period of contact before distribution.

Any pollution detected at the Board's sources is investigated and the cause eliminated. The entire population of the borough is on a direct mains supply.

The fluoride content of all sources is nil except at Rainham since this source is very small in terms of yield and is in fact mixed with water from Gore before distribution, the fluoride content of the water in the borough is negligible and may be considered absent.

Fluoridation of water supplies

There has been no change in the County Council's policy with regard to fluoridation of water supplies and the borough's recommendation of 1963 that they supported the principle of fluoridation stands.

It is hoped that a decision will be reached by the County Council to enable this recommendation to be put into effect and the Health Committee will be kept informed if there is any change in County Council policy.



DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Maternity Services
Infant Welfare Services
Health Visiting
District Nursing
Immunisation and Vaccination
Home Help Service
Mental Health
Welfare Services
Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

Under the Local Government Act of 1958, the borough is responsible under a scheme of delegation, for the administration of County Council health and welfare functions as indicated below.

The County Council continues to be responsible for the remaining services and also for policy and finance in respect of the delegated services.

National Health Service Act, 1946

Section 22	..	..	..	Care of Mothers and Young Children
23	..	..	..	Midwifery
24	..	..	..	Health visiting
25	..	..	..	Home nursing
26	..	..	..	Vaccination and immunisation
28	..	..	..	Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care
29	..	..	..	Home help

Mental Health Act, 1959

National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 29	..	..	..	Welfare arrangements for blind, deaf, dumb and crippled persons, etc.
30	..	..	..	Voluntary organisations for disabled persons' welfare

Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1958

Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulation Act, 1948

THE CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Maternity Services

Once again there was an increase in the number of deliveries in hospital during the year and the number of domiciliary deliveries by the local health authority midwives decreased by 80 last year.

Ante-natal care

One ante-natal clinic per week catered for patients who were booked for hospital delivery but are seen at the clinic until the 36th week of pregnancy. This was discontinued in September after an experimental period when the case loads did not merit a continued service.

Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes

There continues to be a large demand for relaxation and mothercraft classes for expectant mothers. At two centres, Balmoral Gardens and Holding Street, relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at regular intervals by the department's health visitors and midwives. These classes establish contact between health visitor and mother before the birth of her child and enable the health visitors to teach mothercraft and to introduce material in the health education field; visual aids such as films are used in this work. The happy relationship set up encourages the mothers to use the clinic as a centre for advice during the infant's early years.

Relaxation classes are held as follows:

Clinic,
Balmoral Gardens,
Gillingham

Thursday 10.30 a.m. - 12 noon
Friday 2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

The Clinic,
Holding Street,
Rainham

Friday 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

Care of Illegitimate Children

In accordance with the County Council scheme financial responsibility was accepted in respect of the maintenance of 21 unmarried mothers in mother and baby homes.

Midwifery services

There were 11 midwives employed by the authority and they attended 559 deliveries during the year.

During this period the midwifery staff made 122 visits to patients who had been confined in hospital and discharged home before the 10th day after delivery.

The County Council supervisor reports:

"In June, 1967 midwives in the borough were attached to groups of medical practitioners, so that instead of attending patients within a certain geographical area they now attend all the patients of their own particular doctors, for which the services of a midwife are required. This incurs much more travelling for the nurses but ensures greater cooperation between medical and nursing personnel with consequent improvements in the continuity and standard of patient care.

Midwives attend the ante natal clinics of their group doctors in many instances where this is practicable.

With the extensive building of new houses in the Gillingham area, there has been an increased "young" population.

The numbers justify increasing the training facilities for pupil midwives. At present only one midwife is approved by the Central Midwives Board as a teaching midwife and is allocated a pupil midwife each three months for experience in ante and post natal care plus the conduct of ten confinements in the home. We should like to see four (or more) pupil midwives in this area and therefore hope that a hostel will be developed for housing them in Gillingham. We do not foresee any difficulty in having more of our midwives approved as teaching midwives".

INFANT WELFARE SERVICES

The medical officers work in the infant welfare clinic is increasingly being devoted to the assessment of developmental problems in handicapped children and children at risk from a number of causes and the health visitors are taking on even more of the routine advice and help given to mothers with problems of feeding and management and also undertaking immunisation in many cases.

Child welfare centres

The child welfare centres in the borough are as follows:

<u>Centre</u>	<u>sessions held</u>	<u>Times</u> <u>Sessions held</u>
The Clinic, Balmoral Gardens, Gillingham	Weekly	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday p.m.
The Clinic, Holding Street, Rainham	Weekly	Tuesday and Thursday p.m.
The Clinic, Twydall Green, Gillingham	Weekly	Monday and Wednesday p.m.
The Clinic, 2 Magnolia Avenue, Wigmore	Weekly	Wednesday p.m.
Hempstead Village Hall	2nd and 4th in the month	Tuesday p.m.

The total attendances at child welfare centres during the year were 16,440 covering 3,669 children; of these 1,847 under one year of age attended for the first time during this period.

Attendances at clinics were as follows:

Centre	Average att. per session	New cases				Total Attendances	Sessions
		Born in					
		1967	1966	62-65	Totals		
Balmoral Gardens	34	621	95	81	797	5154	152
Holding Street	51	432	53	41	526	5224	103
Twydall	38	212	11	12	235	3747	98
Wigmore	36	176	32	45	253	1883	52
Hempstead	19	22	10	4	36	432	23
Total	36	1463	201	183	1847	16440	428

At ante-natal and post-natal clinics there were 202 first attendances and 109 subsequent attendances.

Special Care of Premature Infants

During the year notifications were received of 66 babies who weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth. Details of these are given in the following tabulation.

Notifications were received relating to 3 premature still births and details of these are also given in the following table.

Weight at birth	Premature live births								Prem. still births	
	Born in hospital				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home					
	Died				Died				Born	
	Total births	within 24 hrs. of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	Total births	within 24 hrs. of birth	in 1 and under 7 days	in 7 and under 28 days	in hospital	at home or in a nursing home
1. 2 lb 3 oz or less	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2. Over 2 lb 3 oz up to and incl. 3 lb 4 oz	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Over 3 lb 4 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 6 oz	13	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
4. Over 4 lb 6 oz up to and incl. 4 lb 15 oz	13	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	2
5. Over 4 lb 15 ozs up to and incl. 5 lb 8 oz	27	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
6. Total	55	1	2	3	8	-	-	-	-	3

HEALTH VISITING

I give below the report of the Senior Health Visitor/Group Adviser, Miss M.M. Byrne, on the work of the health visiting staff during 1967:

The changes in the health visitors work in the community, noted in previous reports progressed still further during 1967.

In March the health visitors ceased to act as agents for the Children's Department in the supervision of children privately fostered, their remaining duty in this field being the visiting of, and reporting on children awaiting adoption.

At this time, they assumed responsibility for those patients attending the Rochester Chest Clinic, the task hitherto carried out by a specialist health visitor, but now considered to be a part of general casework; thus reducing duplicated visits, and extending the general health visitors knowledge of, and responsibility for the families affected.

General practitioner/health visitor attachment

Following the national trend, and in response to a request, Miss M. E. Cox, left the geographical area she covered from Gillingham Clinic to assume responsibility for the families on the lists of Drs. Andrews, Holmes, Lakra and Sumner, 7 Railway Street.

She confines her duties in the field of maternity and child welfare to those families within the practice and she attends morning surgery where she is available for consultation with doctors and patients on the many social problems arising in a busy practice. She also, as do her colleagues in the child welfare clinics, carries out immunisation programmes at the surgery. In consequence her involvement is increasingly with the family as a whole.

Ideally, this process should continue, but there are inhibiting factors which make further attachments impracticable, at present namely:

1. Four out of our present staff are covering full time areas on a part time basis;

2. Not all health visitors are considered essential car users, 50% only in Gillingham;
3. The disparity in numbers of general practitioners in ratio to health visitors. In Gillingham there are 32 general practitioners and only 7 full time and 4 part time health visitors. For this team work to operate to everyones satisfaction it would seem essential for practitioners to group together rather than work in isolation.

Hospital liaison

The importance of cooperation between hospital and local authority personnel in community care cannot be over emphasized; and in an effort to translate this into practical terms arrangements were made for Mrs. W. Clements to visit the maternity unit, All Saints' Hospital on a once weekly basis.

Her liaison work is now extended to the paediatric ward where she is informed on the progress of all children admitted from Gillingham.

Conversely, the health visitors supply reports on home conditions to the paediatrician when so requested.

Field work instruction

The importance of practical training for health visitor students is stressed and extra training is given for those qualified health visitors willing to undertake this responsibility.

Miss M. E. Cox accepted the training of two students from the Medway College of Technology in September. Both the professional adviser to the Council for Training of Health Visitors and the College tutors are very satisfied with the variety, depth and quality of training being given and this is due to the time and effort unstintingly given to this added task by the field work instructor.

School work

The health visitors retain the duties of preparing for, and being present at the entrants medical examination and for carrying out routine or occasional hygiene surveys of all school children.

Although many people assume the contrary head infestation can, and still does occur. The frequency of inspections is determined by the head teachers and health visitors knowledge of conditions in different schools in the borough.

Miss P. Mason and Mrs. Crystal continued their weekly visits to Orchard Street Senior Girls' School giving instruction in parentcraft.

Mrs. Clements was again requested to conduct the practical examination in this subject at Upbury Manor School.

Audiometry

The health visitors have for some years been carrying out audiometric tests on school children when a teacher, school medical officer or general practitioner has expressed a wish for this to be done for a particular child.

The importance of routine checks has been emphasised by results obtained from screen testing all children as early as eight months.

As well as tests made on request, audiometric sweeps are now carried out on certain age groups particularly at 7 years. The time needed to carry out these special surveys is available to the health visitors since the more routine duties of health visitors at medical inspections are now undertaken by the lay health assistant.

Young Wives Clubs

Rainham club membership has now risen to 170+ and continues to provide lively and interesting monthly meetings.

In February a similar club was launched at Balmoral Gardens and shows signs of being equally successful. Its members made a £5 donation to the Special Care Clinic, and presented the children at Christmas with a collection of attractive well made soft toys.

Invitations to speak to the following organisations were accepted:

W.V.S. Darby and Joan Club
Hempstead Womens Fellowship
Hempstead Mothers Union
National Association Mentally Handicapped
Old People's Welfare Council (Course for voluntary visitors)
Gillingham St. John's Ambulance Brigade
St. Matthew's Wigmore Thursday Club
St. Matthew's Wigmore Mothers Union
Chapter C.S. School, Strood

Committee membership

Old People's Welfare Council (Executive)
Tuberculosis After Care

Miss M. E. Cox, following a course of lectures on Maternity and Child Welfare and Hygiene was invited to become the Nursing Officer to the Gillingham Branch of St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Health Visitor's Visits:

The following are details of the number of visits carried out during the year:

To expectant mothers	..	..	..	..	..	..	148
To children under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,484
To children aged 1 and under 2 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,096
To children aged 2 and under 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,350
To patients with tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	495
Other visits (hospital care, care of old people, children at risk, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,669
Total visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	21,242

CHILDREN AT RISK

The At Risk Register has now been in operation for two years and at present there are 647 children on the register who are being followed up. Many of these are seen at intervals during their first year of life and found at their first year check up to be free from defects and are therefore taken off the register. Others are followed up through their pre-school life so that recommendations for suitable schooling may be made to meet their particular problems and accurate assessment of their disabilities be made.

The At Risk Register involves the registration of children born in conditions liable to produce abnormalities and those which at birth or later are found to have some defect however small. For easy classification the following categories are recognised:

Family history:

1. Deafness, blindness, neurological diseases, cerebral palsy; epilepsy;
2. congenital malformations;
3. mental disorders;
4. mother unusually young or elderly;
5. family in a "social problem group".

Prenatal:

1. Rubella - other virus diseases;
2. smallpox vaccination early in pregnancy;
3. toxoplasmosis; hyperemesis;
4. threatened abortion;
5. severe illness - necessitating chemotherapy - major operation;
6. exposure to radio active substances during pregnancy;
7. blood group incompatibilities;
8. maternal diabetes;
9. maternal thyrotoxicosis;
10. toxæmia;
11. uterine haemorrhage;
12. hydramnios
13. multiple pregnancy.

Peri-natal:

1. Premature birth;
2. low birth weight;
3. postmature birth;
4. abnormal presentation;
5. prolonged, precipitate and instrumental labour;
6. birth asphyxia;
7. neonatal jaundice;
8. presence of any congenital malformation;

Post-natal:

1. Difficulties in sucking and swallowing;
2. convulsions;
3. cerebral palsy;
4. meningitis and encephalitis;
5. lack of interest in people or playthings;
6. abnormal social behaviour;

Symptomatic group:

1. Mother suspicious that child blind, deaf, retarded or otherwise abnormal;
2. inattention to sound or visual stimulus;
3. delayed motor development;
4. delayed development of vocalisation and speech;
5. lack of interest in people or play things;
6. abnormal social behaviour.

COUNSELLING CLINICS - Special Care

The appended table shows a progress report of the children attending during the year:

D. of B.	Handicap	Remarks
20.11.1962	Severely subnormal; Down's syndrome	Made some progress in social training. Now at training centre.
1.12.1962	Cerebral palsy	Spastic quadriplegia. Can now crawl, stand and walk with help, and say a few words. Her potential continues to be developed.
11.2.1963	Hydrocephalus; spina bifida	Extensive lumbo sacral meningocele. Was paralytic initially but has now some movement at the hips and favourable possibilities of mobility. Speech development has been rapid and she is probably of average intelligence.
15.12.1963	Severely subnormal; multiple pregnancy; premature	Is now able to walk and integrate to some extent with other children. Notified under Sec. 57; she has a normal twin sister.
15.2.1962	Spina bifida; paraplegia	Severely affected with low average intelligence; was admitted to Richmond Road Physically Handicapped Unit and transferred to Coney Hill School.
10.7.1964	Cerebral palsy; severely subnormal	A severely subnormal child with spastic quadriplegia and microcephaly. She can now raise her head and shoulders and shows some response to stimuli.

D. of B.	Handicap	Remarks
18.2.1963	Severely subnormal	An active little boy who has progressed in social training. He is on the waiting list for training centre.
12.2.1963	Severely subnormal Down's syndrome	A very severely affected little boy with limited capabilities. On waiting list for training centre.
11.11.1963	Partially sighted ?E.S.N.	Now in residential nursery (Sunshine Home). Right eye enucleated; very poor vision in left eye.
13.8.1963	Spina bifida paraplegia	Now in residential nursery school. Suffered from recurrent urinary infections and required several hospital admissions for corrective surgery on lower limbs.
8.4.1962	Cardiac; developmental asphasia	In Physically Handicapped Unit. Has a difficult social background and benefitted from the opportunity of integration and developing speech.
20.5.1962	Severely subnormal Down's syndrome	Now in training centre
30.5.1963	Prematurity; cerebral palsy	Has progressed to the stage of walking with help. Her upper limbs are not severely affected and her speech is intelligible, of low average intelligence.
3.10.1961	Severely subnormal genetic factor	Now in training centre. A very happy little girl who can now stand with support and makes a great effort to improve mobility.

D. of B.	Handicap	Remarks
29.11.1963	Severely subnormal (unknown aetiology)	Has evolved from an unhappy withdrawn toddler into a responsive little boy, integrating with staff and children. He can now walk.
20.9.1963	Speech defect	Now more outgoing little girl who can converse and is sufficiently confident to enter ordinary school.
17.12.1964	Retarded; E.S.N. ?mild spasticity	Developmental progress continues and he is attempting to walk and talk.
29.10.1963	Spina bifida	Removed
29.12.1963	Down's syndrome	Is achieving a degree of independence and is less handicapped than most children with this syndrome.
31.1.1963	Down's syndrome	Severely affected.
5.5.1963	Down's syndrome	Progress in social training; integrates; on waiting list for training centre.
2.4.1963	Down's syndrome; congenital heart lesion	Removed
3.11.1964	Spina bifida	An intelligent little girl with paraplegia. She makes good use of calipers and skis.
17.6.1963	Premature	Initially development was slow but she is now walking and running and better adjusted socially and emotionally. She will be suitable for ordinary school.

D. of B.	Handicap	Remarks
27.4.1963	Spina bifida	A less severe case. Can walk with help but has had several recurrent illnesses. On waiting list for Richmond Road Physically Handicapped Unit.
13.8.1963	Hemiplegia E.S.N.	A hyperkinetic little girl with difficult social background. She has been taken in to the care of the Children's Department.
12.9.1963	Hemiplegia cardiac (Fallot's tetralogy)	A robust outgoing child who is very active and independent.
2.10.1963	Hare lip, cleft palate	Has benefitted from attendance as her mother is partially hearing with an associated speech defect. An intelligent child with fluent and mainly intelligible speech now.
6.4.1965	Hemiplegia	Is making more use of affected limbs and improving socially.
30.8.1962	Congenital bilateral cataracts	Was completely lacking in any social training but made progress in this respect.
5.2.1966	Spina bifida	A very bright, determined little boy with good prospects of mobility.
5.11.1965	?Autism	Was almost completely irresponsible on entry but is reacting to some sensory stimuli now and walks with help.

The number of children attending the special care clinic totalled 32 covering a wide variety and degree of handicaps.

The staff are now well integrated and experienced, able to give both children and parents help and guidance in the problems arising from disability.

The clinic has now been in existence long enough for people outside to show interest in the work and offer help in various ways.

The members of the Gillingham Rotary Club were most generous in providing and maintaining a sitting car ambulance for transporting the children to and from the clinic and as mentioned previously both money and toys were presented to the clinic by the members of one of the Young Wives Clubs, and the children were entertained at Christmas time aboard H.M. Destroyer "Caprice".

The crew dressed as pirates, decorated their quarters as a pirates cave, cooked and served a tea, afterwards the children were entertained by a conjurer and a ventriloquist. Before leaving each child was presented with a parcel. Further excitement was added by TV cameras and press photographers.

It is hoped to form a club for these mothers, so that the clinic service can be extended to outside activities.

Nurseries and Child Minders (Regulation) Act

At the end of the year the following premises were registered as nurseries or persons registered as child minders under the Act.

		<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No. of places</u>
Day nurseries	..	3	110
Daily minders	..	4	43

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

At the 31st December, 1967, there were 14 district nurses employed in the borough and one employed part-time only.

		Patients who were 65 or over at the time of the first visit in 1967	Children who were under 5 at the time of the first visit in 1967
No. of patients attended	1,084	613	12
No. of nursing attendances made by district nurses	24,225	18,935	74

An attachment scheme for district nurses to group practises of private doctors was commenced in June.

The nurses call at the doctors' surgeries at regular intervals according to the needs of individual practices, to discuss any problems the pattern of treatment and its results. They may also give injections and some treatments at the surgeries if conditions permit. In the future we anticipate that the nurses' skills may be more widely used in this respect and a greater number of patients may be treated by one nurse than if she is required to travel to every patient's home, rather than just to those who are unable to come to the surgery.

From time to time adjustments have been and may still be necessary in this attachment scheme but we hope that it will continue to work towards greater efficiency in the care of the sick at home.

One nurse succeeded in the National examination following the Kent County Council district nurse training course.

IMMUNISATIONImmunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus
Vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis

I have set out below the figures for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus immunisation (triple antigen) and for smallpox and poliomyelitis vaccination for 1967.

Triple Antigen Immunisation
(Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus)

Age at date of immunisation	Primary Immunisation	Reinforcing Dose
Under 1 year	669	16
1-4 years	865	1227
5-14 years	3	56
15 years and over ..	-	-
Total	1537	1299

2,836 persons were thus immunised or re-immunised by triple antigen injections by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table gives the number of second doses and third doses of oral vaccine given during the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Age at date of Vaccination	Second	Third	Fourth
Under 1 year	496	587	-
1-4 years	973	982	1134
5-14 years	35	34	86
15 years and over	-	-	-
Total all ages	1504	1603	1220

Vaccination against smallpox

Age at date of vaccination	Vaccinated
Under 1 year	-
1-4 years	880
5-14 years	6
15 years and over	-

886 persons were thus vaccinated against smallpox by general practitioners and local health authority medical officers. Figures for re-vaccination are not available.

B.C.G. Vaccination

This vaccination to protect against tuberculosis is offered after preliminary testing to all persons of 13 years of age or over who are in full time attendance at schools and educational establishments, as well as persons known to have been in close contact with patients suffering from tuberculosis. By the end of the year 813 school children had been vaccinated by assistant medical officers.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARECytology Clinic

The district nurses have conducted regular cytology clinics according to public demand for this service. The cervical smear test has indeed picked up several patients in need of treatment, though not all of a serious nature and it certainly allays fear in a great number of women.

Number of sessions	35
Number of attendances	676

Results

Negative	675
Positive	1

Abnormalities referred to G.P.s	157
------------------------------------	-----

Repeat results

Negative	4
Further letters to G.P.s	3

T.B. Care and After-Care - Provision of Extra Foods

36 recommendations were made for patients to receive extra nourishment and 35 were approved.

Illness Generally - Recuperative Care

6 recommendations were made under the County Council's scheme and 4 approved and arrangements were made for these patients to have 2-3 weeks nursing home care.

It is worthy of note that with the temporary suspension of expenditure for recuperative care, it has still been possible to assist some 24 persons with periods of convalescence following serious illness at home. This was due to the most generous response by local voluntary agencies and in particular the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust.

Medical loans

131 persons were provided with 179 loans.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The domestic help organiser reports as follows:

Domestic help

The home help service is in continued demand and is meeting a great need in the community, mainly as in past years amongst the aged.

The full cost of the domestic help service went up to 6s. 2d. per hour during the year which has seemed to deter some applicants of availing themselves of the service.

The home helps have kept a high standard of work and in the main have proved very satisfactory even though in some cases the conditions in the homes where they work are very bad.

Confinement service

Domestic help after confinement has been afforded to all those who made application. This service is not used as often as one would expect but midwives and doctors do put this to their patients when arrangements are made for home confinements.

Family care service

Family care has provided valuable help during the temporary absence of the mother from home in six households during the past year. In one case where the mother had deserted, this service enabled the father to go to work and thus keep the family together for three months during which time he was able to make other arrangements.

Family welfare

Family welfare also is being given to one household and there is some progress to report in the teaching of the running of the home.

Night service has assisted in relieving the burden for relatives of the very sick - also those who otherwise would be alone at this time.

Family care service

A.	Number of applications received	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
B.	Disposal of applications:							
	(a) number of cases in which service has been provided:							
	(i) resident	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(ii) non-resident	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	(b) number of cases in which help is pending	..	..	..				-
	(c) number of cases in which help was not provided	..	..					6
C.	Summary of cases in which help has been provided:							
	(a) resident - still operating	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	resident - terminated	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(b) non-resident - still operating	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	non-resident - terminated	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
D.	Details of the circumstances calling for the provision of the service:							
	(a) mother in hospital for confinement or complications of pregnancy or confinement	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	(b) mother to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	(c) mother deserted the family	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	(d) mother died	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(e) mother to convalescent home	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
E.	Details of families for which help was not provided:							
	(a) family made own arrangements	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	(b) children taken into care	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(c) domestic help provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(d) difficulty cleared up	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
	(e) not suitable or not eligible	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

- F. Total number of children in the families which have been or are being cared for:
- (a) under the age of five years 8
- (b) five years and over 12
- G. Statement showing (a) the total number of children cared for in each age group, and (b) the total number of days covered in each age group:

	(a) Number of children cared for	(b) Total number of days covered
Under 1 year	2	14
Aged 1 year	-	-
" 2 years	2	50
" 3 years	2	16
" 4 years	2	15
" 5 years	-	-
" 6 years	1	5
" 7 years	2	16
" 8 years	2	44
" 9 years	1	10
" 10 years	1	10
" 11 years	3	38
" 12 years	-	-
" 13 years	2	34
" 14 years	-	-
" 15 years	-	-
Over 15 but not working	-	-
Total of all ages	20	252

Of the 6 families served the number of children in each family was:

	Families	Children
2 children in family ..	3	6
3 children in family ..	-	-
4 children in family ..	1	4
5 children in family ..	2	10
Totals	6	20

Average days service per child $12\frac{1}{2}$.

H. The total number of days covered by the service, i.e. including those cases receiving service at the beginning of the year during which children would have needed to be in care:

(a) Under five years	95
(b) Five years and over	157
Total	252

Night and evening service

	<u>Night</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Number of applications received	35	11
Number of cases where help was provided ..	19	11
Sources of request:		
Doctor	19	-
Hospital, hospital management committee ..	-	-
Domestic help service.. .. .	1	10
District nurse	9	-
Health visitor	1	-
Relations and neighbours	3	1
District office	1	-
Patient personally	1	-
Cases brought forward from 1966	-	2

	<u>Night</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Number of cases terminated during 1967	19	10
Number of cases carried forward to 1968	-	1
Reasons for termination:		
Improved	2	4
Looked after by friends or relatives ..	2	2
Admitted to hospital	7	1
Admitted to nursing or old people's home	1	1
Died	7	2
Other reasons	-	-
Number of cases served where patient was living alone	9	11
Average age of patients.. .. .	80	84
Number of cases helped where patient was under 70 years of age.. .. .	4	-

The figures given below show various categories of households where service was provided during the year:

Maternity	44
Tuberculosis patients and chronic sick	31
Person or persons over 65 years.. .. .	415
Others, e.g., illness, mental subnormal, etc.	60
Total households served.. .. .	550
The number of helps employed at the end of the year.. ..	57

MEALS ON WHEELS AND LUNCHEON CLUBS

The following details are given of the number of meals provided during year ended 31st December, 1967:

W.R.V.S. Meals on Wheels service, served twice weekly, each recipient receiving two meals weekly.. .. .	10,967
St. Peter's Luncheon Club, Trafalgar Street - meals served every Tuesday	2,402

Upbury Manor School domestic science class -
meals served on a monthly basis to invited
elderly people 126

Baptist Church Green Street, Thursday Diners Club -
commenced 14th September, 1967 to 21st December, 1967 1,016

St. Luke's Church Thursday Club; mainly handicapped
and housebound elderly people -
commenced 20th April to 21st December, 1967 1,152

Total 15,663

WELFARE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health

Mentally ill

52 patients were referred to the mental welfare officer during the year and all of these were admitted to hospital.

73 cases were on the care and after-care register.

There was an increase of over 50% in the number of patients receiving mental after-care during 1967. The need for intensive case work with many families was reflected in the number of coordination meetings called by various statutory and voluntary agencies, and attended by the mental welfare officers who were able to make a valuable contribution. Cooperation with other social workers has been excellent and continues to play an important part in the prevention or relief of mental illness. The mental welfare officers are meeting an ever increasing need to act in an advisory or supportive capacity within the home and this, together with regular attendance at psychiatric clinics and visiting to maintain contact with patients in hospital continues to underline the need for an increase in establishment. Mental health and the integration of the patient within the community is a rewarding and absorbing facet of the social services. It is, however, desirable that those responsible for providing such specialised care should have sufficient time to devote to this aspect of the work.

The subnormal and severely subnormal

4 patients were admitted to hospital on a permanent basis and 3 cases were admitted for "short term care" varying from two weeks to four months.

190 visits were made by the mental welfare officer to severely subnormal patients.

8 patients remained on the waiting list for suitable hospital accommodation. Friendly oversight is available to 67 males and by the health visitors to 62 females.

Training centres

A total of 38 patients attended the training centres as follows:

<u>Rochester</u>				<u>Bobbing</u>			
5-15		16 and over		5-15		16 and over	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5	5	11	7	7	10	6	3

1 patient was receiving home training.

Physically handicapped

The steady growth in the numbers of registered handicapped persons was maintained during 1967 and during the year the craft instructor has made regular visits to approximately 50 patients.

Two exhibitions have been held at the library and several other smaller sales of work achieved considerable publicity. It is, however, becoming increasingly difficult to enlist helpers or to sell the handiwork of disabled persons within the borough and in view of the rising prices of raw materials, profit to the patient is decreasing. An endeavour has been made to obtain outwork from local factories but this is repetitive and poorly paid. The therapeutic value of time spent on this form of occupation is therefore minimal.

One of the most successful ventures of the year has been the commencement of a handicraft class at St. Luke's Church Hall, where patients also receive lunch and have the opportunity of meeting others for a chat. Transport of the more severely disabled has presented some difficulty but been largely resolved by concerted voluntary effort.

Number of persons on handicapped register at 31st December, 1967:

Age	Sex	Deaf with speech	Deaf without speech	Hard of hearing	General classes	Total
Under 16	M	2	1	13	-	16
	F	4	-	16	2	22
16-29	M	2	3	9	8	22
	F	4	3	12	11	30
30-49	M	7	1	7	19	34
	F	4	1	7	21	33
50-64	M	3	2	25	30	60
	F	5	1	25	30	61
65 or over	M	3	1	53	26	83
	F	7	1	76	55	139
Total		41	14	243	202	500

Number of persons whose names were added to the register during the year ended 31st December, 1967:

Under 16	M	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-
16-29	M	1	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	2	2
30-49	M	-	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	1	1
50-64	M	-	-	1	1	2
	F	-	-	1	7	8
65 or over	M	3	-	1	10	14
	F	2	-	10	13	25
Total		6	-	13	45	64

Major handicaps	AGE					
	under 16 1	16-29 2	30-49 3	50-64 4	65 or over 5	Total 6
1. Amputation	-	2	-	6	11	19
2. Arthritis or rheumatism	-	2	2	12	35	51
3. Congenital malformations or deformities	2	2	1	-	1	6
4. Diseases of the digestive and genito-urinary systems, of the heart or circulatory system, of the respiratory system (other than tuberculosis) or of the skin	-	1	2	7	7	17
5. Injuries of the head, face, neck, thorax, abdomen, pelvis or trunk. Injuries or diseases (other than tuberculosis) of the lower limbs and of the spine	-	-	6	7	5	18
6. Organic nervous diseases - epilepsy, disseminated sclerosis, poliomyelitis, hemiplegia, sciatica, etc.	-	9	26	22	14	71
7. Neuroses, psychoses and other nervous and mental disorders not included in 6.	-	1	2	3	1	7
8. Tuberculosis (respiratory)	-	-	-	1	-	1
9. Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	-	-	1	-	2	3
10. Diseases and injuries not specified above	-	2	-	2	5	9
Total	2	19	40	60	81	202

Handicapped persons

202 persons registered as at 31st December, 1967.
 15 supplied with personal aids
 8 persons had adaptations carried out to their home
 16 persons went on holiday
 10 new persons issued with car badges, making total of 26.

Chiropody

During 1967 there were 192 new applicants for chiropody treatment, of which 189 were old age pensioners, 1 physically handicapped person, and 1 expectant mother. The total number of attendances for treatment was 2,272 of which 974 (including 609 domiciliary visits) were made by private chiropodists approved by the County Council and 1,298 by the chiropodist appointed by the County Council to work part time in Gillingham in addition to other areas.

In September, 1967, a chiropodist was appointed to work in Gillingham on a sessional basis for six sessions per week, this gave an increase in time available for clinic appointments, which was previously only two days.

The charges by private chiropodists are 10/- per visit to the surgery and 17/- per domiciliary visit.

The maximum amount payable by patients is 4/- per treatment, and of the total number of 504 patients treated during the year, 255 paid the maximum charge of 4/- and 249 received treatment free of charge.

Blind and Partially Sighted - a report from the home teacher for the blind:

The service for the blind and partially sighted in Gillingham showed a marked improvement during 1967, and the full benefit of the division of case loads in the Medway towns was clearly felt. Much more time could be devoted to the teaching of Braille (a very important factor to the newly blind younger persons who are awaiting training for suitable employment), also for Moon and handicraft tuition, and individual case work in the blind person's homes. It is hoped that in 1968, the case load in the Medway towns will again be divided and that Gillingham will enjoy the full benefit of its own home teacher for the blind.

The handicraft classes which were started in January have proved a very great success, and some 26 persons enjoy the weekly Thursday

meetings in the Twydall estate hall. These persons are collected from a very wide area including Wigmere, Rainham, Brompton and Gillingham. It is hoped that as soon as more voluntary helpers are available to assist with tuition, many more people who wish to take part in this activity will be able to do so. The standard of work achieved at the handicraft class is extremely high and at the County exhibition which was held in September at the Corn Exchange, Maidstone, a number of first and second prizes were won by the club, and in the section for the deaf-blind, the Silver Challenge Cup was awarded to a Gillingham club member.

The Social Club activities during 1967 included another trip to the continent, this time by air to Ostend and we were most grateful to the Belgium Association for the Blind who helped so much to make this trip a memorable one. Other activities included County quiz contests, cribbage and domino contests, old time dancing, and a drama group production of a very successful play. For 1968 we look forward to another very active year with, as its highlight, an air flight to Amsterdam, Holland.

For the newly blind persons who needed to adjust themselves to the handicap of blindness, use was made of the Royal National Institute for the Blind Social Rehabilitation Centres at Torquay and Oldbury Grange, Shropshire, and with the cooperation of the Blind Persons' Resettlement Officer and the Ministry of Labour, a number of other persons were able to be trained for work in open industry or sheltered employment at the Industrial rehabilitation centres.

With the help of local youth organisations, arrangements were made for the integration of blind children who were at school outside the county to enjoy their holiday with sighted companions of their own age.

The holiday home for the Kent blind at Cliftonville, Margate, was as usual the most popular holiday resort for our local blind, also good use was made for the holiday home for the blind at Hastings, Sussex. For the aged who were no longer able to be supported in their own home, the residential homes at Ramsgate and Westgate which are adapted for the needs of the blind, were available.

During 1967, full advantage was taken of the health department

scheme under which adaptations can be made for blind persons in their homes, making it possible for many elderly blind to continue living with greater safety and comfort in familiar surroundings and for those with a dual handicap, the installation was undertaken of the electronic door bell device in the home of a deaf-blind person. This is only the second of its kind to be in use in Kent.

The following table gives details of the number of registered blind and partially sighted persons in the borough at 31st December:

Age Group	Blind			Partially sighted		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	1	-	1	-	-	-
5 -10 years	-	2	2)	3	1	4
11-15 years	-	1	1)	-	-	-
16-20 years	-	3	3)	-	-	-
21-29 years	5	-	5)	-	-	-
30-39 years	8	2	10)	6	3	9
40-49 years	5	1	6)	-	-	-
50-59 years	4	3	7)	2	3	5
60-64 years	8	6	14)	-	-	-
65-69 years	5	10	15)	-	-	-
70-79 years	15	24	39)	-	-	-
80-84 years	7	20	27)	1	15	16
85-89 years	4	20	24)	-	-	-
90 and over	3	18	21)	-	-	-
Totals	65	110	175	12	22	34

The following table shows the action taken concerning the examination of persons alleged to be blind during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1967:

	Number of Examinations	Certified Blind		Not Certified Blind	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
New cases	17	4	7	1	5
Re-examinations:					
Previously blind - still blind	-	-	-		
now not blind	-			-	-
Previously not blind - still not blind	4			1	3
now blind	4	2	2		
Totals	25	6	9	2	8

St. Dunstaners

There are 2 St. Dunstaners registered in the borough, of whom 1 is employed and 1 is unemployable.

Workshop Employment

There was one man employed at the Blind Employment Factory, Waterloo Road, S.E.1. as a brushmaker.

The rates of pay in the workshops are agreed rates fixed through the appropriate negotiating procedure. The workers' actual earnings are augmented and additional supplementation as is necessary to bring the earnings plus augmentation up to an agreed minimum wage. The augmentation and supplementation is paid by the Council.

Home Workers

There are two blind persons in the home workers scheme, in the following trades:

Hand knitter (and chair caning) 1 female: Piano tuner 1 male

Augmentation at the rate of £6. 10s. 6d. (female) and £7. 5s. 0d. (male) per week is paid by the Council.

Report on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Gillingham area by the
welfare officer for the deaf:

Work during the year has been quiet though progressive, and as the service is becoming known, people are now being aware of it and taking the advantages it can give, and due to the very good liaison with the Welfare Office and the General Practitioner those who seek the aid of the Welfare Officer for the Deaf have benefited.

The work is done mostly on an individual basis, and the amount of effort taken depends entirely on each individual circumstance. Some of these people require very little assistance whatever, others seem to require constant attention.

The work among the Hard of Hearing continues and this has been greatly helped by the amenities given at the Medway Club, Gillingham. The service provided at present includes, visiting, club life and social activities, discussions and classes for lipreading.

During the year at the Club for all who are deaf and Hard of Hearing there were regular Church Services and social activities with varied programmes. Club Members were invited to the Bishop of Tonbridge's Garden Party and the Bishop made a farewell visit at which the Church ornaments were dedicated. The annual New Year Dinner was attended by over 150 members and I am pleased to report that the Deaf Children's Society (Kent Region) took advantage of the Club's amenities and held three interesting events during the year.

OLD PEOPLE'S LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT (January, 1967 to December, 1967)

The previous report dealt with the preliminary work involved in surveying the needs of the elderly and the amenities that are provided by voluntary and statutory services, and laying the ground work for the inauguration of an Old People's Welfare Council for Gillingham.

The 7th March, 1967 saw the inauguration of this Council at a Public Meeting presided over by His Worship The Mayor of Gillingham, Councillor Major D.V.J. Banning (R.E. Rtrd.) This Meeting was attended by representatives of the majority of Organisations in the Borough who have an interest in the welfare of the elderly. The wish of the meeting was that the Council be set-up, and to this effect officers were elected.

The formation of the Old People's Welfare Council for Gillingham has resulted in an increase of activities in working for the elderly with the result liaison duties and the work of being Secretary to the new Council are very closely linked. A pleasing feature of the Council's work is the close co-operation between the voluntary and statutory agencies working in this field. The bulk of liaison duties are concerned with fostering this co-operation. This makes it very necessary to attend meetings of the various organisations, and to meet officials at both local and county level, in this way obtaining views at different levels, and being able to put the local point of view in perspective. Everyone involved with the Old People's Welfare Council have worked together in taking a closer look at the services provided, and where a need has been seen, establishing a service to meet it. To this end new services have been started, and existing services extended.

Luncheon Clubs

Before the new Council was set up, St. Peters Methodist Church had pioneered this aspect of caring for those elderly persons able to take part. Surveys proved there was a need for the extension of this service and visits were paid to organisations throughout the borough to see if this was possible. This has resulted in the opening of a Luncheon Club at St. Lukes Church, Sidney Road, for the elderly and handicapped on a Thursday. The Craft Instructor attends every Thursday to give craft instruction. The Baptist Church, Green Street, have opened a Thursday Diners Club for the elderly, and due to the demand are thinking of extending this to a further day each week. Other organisations in the borough are still considering this aspect of welfare. This activity has also seen an increase in the

number of meals on wheels being served by the W.R.V.S. The total number of meals served from all sources the week ending Sunday, 12th November, 1967 was 395 meals served to 285 persons who would not otherwise have been able to avail themselves of such a service. By comparison the figures for week ending 12th March, 1967, the week the Old People's Welfare Council was first set-up saw approximately 184 meals served to 122 elderly persons. This is a worthwhile service we must work to extend until the day we are able to obtain an all purpose day centre, perhaps providing meals every day of the week for those able to accept the service.

Another new service is the formation of an Abbeyfields Society for Gillingham, whose aim is to purchase large houses and convert these into single room flatlets, and invite lonely elderly persons as tenants, and employ a housekeeper to attend to their needs and provide at least two main meals a day. The tenants being able to move into their rooms with their own possessions and still enjoy privacy without loneliness. The Society are negotiating the purchase of their first house in Kingswood Road. Several organisations and churches are giving this matter their support and interest. It is hoped this house will be the first opened in the borough.

One of the most pressing needs is transport for the elderly to functions arranged for their benefit and enjoyment. The less ambulant members of the community are finding it increasingly difficult to take part in communal activities and soon become housebound. Although voluntary organisations are doing their best to meet this need, the demands made on them are becoming impossible to meet. To this end, the Old People's Welfare Council have launched an appeal to raise £1,500. 0s. 0d. to purchase a suitably adapted mini-bus to transport elderly and housebound persons when necessary.

The surveys carried out earlier in the year showed there was in many cases a need for fuller information on the services available and the scope of their work. A hand-book was earlier provided by the borough for elderly persons giving them in easily understood terms the services provided. This has been distributed with much success, and has awakened interest for more information in those working in the field of welfare for the elderly. To meet this interest a series of information courses were started at the Further Education Centre, Gardiner Street, covering six Wednesdays at fortnightly intervals from Wednesday, 20th September, 1967 to Wednesday, 29th November, 1967 inclusive. Eleven speakers from statutory and voluntary organisations who are experts in their own field being invited to take part. These evenings have been

well attended and those taking part have been appreciative of the content matter of the course. Everyone who took part said they learned something of value to them in the work they are doing, and all express a wish for these lectures to be continued. An important aspect of liaison duties is the collecting of information from a wide area, and distributing it locally. To effect this, contacts have been made with national, county bodies and authorities from other areas.

Attendance has been made to conferences at county and national level, and meetings attended locally and at county hall. In doing this, information has been gained on a wide range of welfare activities, holidays, residential homes, national and county provisions, finances and fund raising, community and day centres, specialist services, and transport problems. In fact, the full range of welfare provisions for the elderly. Probably the most valuable part of attendance at these many functions has been the contacts with individuals who are working on the same problems, making it a personal approach to the problems and not a voice on the telephone, or a name at the end of a letter.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Gillingham is an "excepted district" under the provisions of the Education Act of 1944. The Committee for Education is responsible to the Kent County Education Committee and works to an agreed scheme of divisional administration.

As at year's end, the number of pupils going to schools under the control of Gillingham's Committee for Education was 13,059, made up as follows:

Primary schools

Arden Street	Junior	425
Barnsole Road	Junior	575
Barnsole Road	Infants	230
Brompton C. of E.	Junior and infants	166
Byron Road	Junior	384
Byron Road	Infants	204
Fairview	Junior	600
Fairview	Infants	287
Featherby	Junior	467
Featherby	Infants	288
Forge Lane	Infants	177
Hempstead	Junior and infants	172
Hillyfields	Junior	364
Meredale	Infants	324
Napier Road	Junior and infants	236
Parkwood	Junior and infants	275
Orchard Street	Junior	349
Orchard Street	Infants	244
Richmond Road	Infants	139
Skinner Street	Infants	175
St. Mary's R.C.	Junior and infants	328
St. Thomas of Canterbury R.C.	Junior and infants	153
Twydall	Junior	531
Twydall	Infants	320
Wakeley	Junior	546
Woodlands	Infants	244

Total primary 8,203

Danecourt Day E.S.N. 126

Secondary schools

Napier Road	Mixed	491
Rainham Mark	Boys	528
Rainham (Orchard Street)	Girls	505
Richmond Road	Mixed	335
Upbury Manor	Mixed	996
Woodlands	Boys	403
Woodlands	Girls	390

<u>Grammar School</u>	Boys	577
<u>Technical School</u>	Boys	505

Total Secondary 4730

TOTAL 13059

This figure represents an increase of 730 over the figure for 1966.

The above figures do not represent the total school-going population of Gillingham, as a number of Gillingham pupils attend schools outside the borough, notably handicapped pupils and girls of grammar or technical school standard, for whom there is no provision in the borough: Also there are pupils in Gillingham who are resident outside our boundaries.

There were, in addition, two private schools - Bryony with 180 pupils and Gillingham Secretarial College (which includes secondary education for girls) with 87 pupils.

The full programme of school health work applies to all children who attend schools under the control of Gillingham's Committee for Education. This programme includes:

- (1) medical and dental inspections of children of different age groups in schools;
- (2) the referral from these inspections of children with defects to the school clinics for consultation and the follow-up in the clinics of all school children with special problems or for special examinations, e.g., for employment, and

- (3) the provision of a diagnostic ascertainment and advice service for handicapped children from the age of two years.

Routine medical inspections were carried out on the following groups of pupils:

- (a) Children in their first year at infant school;
- (b) Children in their first year at junior school;
- (c) Children in their first year at secondary school;
- (d) Children in the last year of secondary education;
- (e) Children of any age transferred from other areas to schools in Gillingham.

In addition, special examinations and re-inspections of children with defects were carried out as necessary. This part of the work is specially necessary at the Danecourt Special School and at the Special Units for the handicapped at Marlborough Road, Richmond Road, Woodlands Road and Fairview.

Handicapped pupils

Handicapped pupils are defined in Part II of the Handicapped Pupils and Special Schools Regulations, 1959 as pupils who require special educational treatment, by reason of their being:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (a) Blind | (g) Maladjusted |
| (b) Partially sighted | (h) Physically handicapped |
| (c) Deaf | (i) Pupils suffering from speech defect |
| (d) Partially hearing | (j) Delicate |
| (e) Educationally subnormal | |
| (f) Epileptic | |

The Education Act of 1944 places on the education authority the responsibility of ascertainment, examination and classification of educationally subnormal children. These ascertainments and examinations are the duty of the school medical officers who can recommend to the local education authority the appropriate form of special educational treatment that each child requires.

To assess accurately the child's future needs the medical officer must have full knowledge of the medical condition of the child which entails obtaining detailed hospital reports and close examination of the child's condition. He must also know what provisions can be made by the local education authority in the area.

We are able, within the boundaries of the borough, to provide appropriate day schooling for educationally subnormal children and partially hearing primary school children. At Marlborough Road there are two small E.S.N. units, one for children below the age of 8 and one for those in the lower I.Q. range, who during their stay there are observed as to whether they are suitable for E.S.N. day school or fit only for training centre.

A small unit caters also for certain physically handicapped children.

For all other handicapped pupils the appropriate special schooling must be obtained outside Gillingham. This is arranged by the Principal School Medical Officer of the Kent County Council.

Total number of children attending special schools and units in Gillingham from Gillingham, Medway and Sittingbourne:

	<u>No. of pupils</u>
Danecourt Day E.S.N. School	126
Partially Hearing Unit:	
(1) Woodlands Road C.P. Infants' School	12
(2) Fairview C.P. J.M. School	11
Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road	11
Special subnormal units, Marlborough Road	18

Number of Gillingham children admitted to special schools and units during 1967:

	<u>No. of pupils</u>
Danecourt Day Special School: E.S.N.	12
Glencoe Special Classes, Chatham: E.S.N.	5
Special subnormal units, Marlborough Road	6
Residential special schools: E.S.N.	-
Residential special schools: Physically handicapped	1
Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road	4
Residential special schools: Deaf	1
Residential special schools: Partially Hearing	-
Residential special schools: Speech	-
Partially Hearing Units:	
(1) Woodlands C.P. Infants	-
(2) Fairview C.P. Junior Mixed	4
Residential schools: Delicate	6
Residential schools: Blind	1
Residential schools: Partially sighted	-
Residential schools: Maladjusted	1

No. of Gillingham children of school age on 31.12.67. formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment

	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect	TOTAL
Attending day special school/ units	-	-	-	13	-	4	75	-	-	-	*15	92
Awaiting placement in day special school/units	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Attending residential special schools	1	2	6	2	8	8	7	15	-	1	-	50
Awaiting placement in residential special school	-	2	-	-	2	-	2	3	-	1	-	10
Total number of children of school age requiring special educational treatment	1	4	6	15	10	12	93	18	-	2	15	161
Children of school age on register of handicapped pupils but not requiring special educational treatment and attending ordinary school	-	5	-	54	24	68	25	137	6	72	1	392

∅ many of these children only require occasional help from the teacher of the partially hearing

* included in total

In addition to the table on Page 91, 25 children were ascertained and found not to be E.S.N., but required special help. 1 child is physically handicapped and partially sighted and is receiving home tuition. 1 child, who is physically handicapped is in a hospital school.

UNDER FIVE HANDICAPPED

	Blind	Partially sighted	Deaf	Partially hearing	Delicate	Physically handicapped	E.S.N.	Maladjusted	Epileptic	Speech defect	Dual defect*	TOTAL
Children aged 2-5 years on 31.12.67. formally ascertained as handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment												
Receiving	1	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	3	4	10
Awaiting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8
Not formally ascertained nor requiring special education	-	-	-	3	2	54	-	4	3	6	9	72

* Not included in total

REPORTS FOR SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND UNITS

Danecourt School - Report of the Headmaster

During the year 19 children, boys and girls, were admitted on the recommendation of the selection panel. Four children 2 boys and 2 girls were admitted as direct transfers.

Fourteen children, 5 boys and 9 girls, left to take up employment. Although some of the summer leavers had difficulty in obtaining positions immediately they were all eventually placed. Of these one girl has been found to be unemployable. Three children left the district and 3 were transferred to training centres. At the end of the year number on roll was 128.

It is still not possible to provide any further training for handicapped school leavers in the area, but it is hoped that the scheme at present being considered by the County Education Officer will soon be implemented.

Report of the School Medical Officer

The school health service continued to provide medical supervision of pupils at Danecourt in 1967 and 126 examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer during 28 sessions. The main purpose of these examinations is to enable each child to make the maximum use of his or her ability and frequent review, re-assessment and reference to ancillary health services or hospital consultants (after discussion with the General Practitioner) was arranged where necessary.

The problems which the E.S.N. pupils and their families present are many and varied and seldom remain static so that close liaison between Medical and teaching staff is necessary.

With this in view and to facilitate the work of the speech therapist at the school, a discussion was held at the commencement of the academic year at which Mrs. Cole, the Medical Officer and teacher concerned with speech training reviewed the problems of the children referred for therapy. This was most rewarding and will become a permanent feature. During the year 29 children were receiving speech therapy and 11 of these residing in Gillingham.

Re-assessments are carried out by the Medical Officer and educational psychologist where considered necessary and the following recommendations were made:

	<u>County</u>	<u>Gillingham</u>
School leavers recommended after- care	7	2
Recommended training centre	2	1
Recommended residential special school	3	-

The E.S.N. school leavers are particularly vulnerable and adequate after-care is of considerable benefit to them and their families.

Partially Hearing Units

At present there are 29 children receiving help from the Partially Hearing Unit - 18 boys and 11 girls. 20 of these children live within the Borough of Gillingham and 9 are from the Medway, Thames-side and Sittingbourne divisions of the Kent Education Committee.

18 of the children attend the Unit for the main part of the school work and only integrate out for play, movement and some craft activities. They form three classes: A nursery class of 7 children with an age range from $3\frac{1}{2}$ years to $5\frac{1}{2}$ years; an infant class of 4 children aged 5 years and a junior class of 7 children with an age range from $6\frac{3}{4}$ years to 10+ years. The Infant and Nursery classes of the Partially Hearing Unit are at Woodlands C.P. Infants and the Junior class is at Fair View C.P. Junior School. 11 children are fully integrated, 2 at the Infant school and 9 at the Junior school. All of these children receive individual help from the Unit staff, some for up to 2 hours per week and some only occasionally.

There are two qualified teachers of the deaf, two qualified teachers and a welfare assistant working in the Unit. One teacher of the deaf left the Unit during 1967. The two teachers who have not undertaken special training for the Education of the Deaf hope to do so in the near future.

During 1967 4 children left the P.H. Unit, one to a residential school for the deaf, one to another Junior P.H.U., one to the Senior P.H.U. at Highfield Secondary School, Chatham and one to his local Infant school. The boy who has transferred to his local Infant School will continue to need help and supervision from a visiting teacher of the deaf. The County Visiting Teacher has begun to visit children with impaired hearing attending ordinary schools in the Borough. This additional help is welcome by the Partially Hearing Unit but it is regretted that, as yet, no co-ordination between the Visiting teacher and the Partially Hearing Unit has been established. Such co-ordination is important if children are to move from the Partially Hearing Unit into ordinary schools and from ordinary schools into the Partially Hearing Unit.

The majority of the children in the P.H.U. have been assessed or reviewed by the Combined Assessment Panel during the year. It has been felt that although complete assessment of each child's

handicap and needs is important, too much emphasis has been placed upon analytical assessment and testing. Many of the children have been issued with commercial hearing aids and these aids have been satisfactory.

There are at present seven severely or profoundly deaf children in the Partially Hearing Unit. The three deaf children in the Infant class are due to transfer to schools for the deaf in September, 1968. The diagnostic assessment of three of the younger children is not yet complete and their placement in the nursery class of the P.H.U. remains satisfactory at present. One multiple-handicapped deaf child is awaiting suitable placement.

Four children have joined the Partially Hearing Unit during the year. All initially joined the nursery group. Three of these children had previously been seen at home by the visiting teacher and their admission to the Unit had been recommended by the Assessment Panel and considered in conjunction with the Unit. In each case the young child first attended on a part time basis. One child was admitted straight to the Unit. This child has now joined a hearing class as he is more suitably placed there.

Physically Handicapped Unit, Richmond Road School

Once again the composition of the class has changed considerably. Three children have gone to ordinary school, one to Marlborough Road, one to residential school, and one to a school for the partially sighted. In addition one has left the district.

Also during the year we have had two short stay children who came in to this school while recovering from an operation and an accident respectively.

At present there are nine children in the unit with arrangements in hand for the admission of a tenth. Three are integrating into school on a trial basis and one is expected to leave at Easter. The age range is 4 years 10 months to 8 years 4 months. The number of Gillingham children in this group is rather low at present with six Medway children taking the bulk of the places.

The physical and intellectual capabilities of the group are varied and we are gradually admitting children with spina bifida who are very disabled. We find however that we can manage to integrate a few provided they are not too heavy for the welfare worker to handle.

Transport is still provided and the services of a part-time physiotherapist and a full time welfare worker are available in addition to those of the class teacher.

Co-operation between the health department and the Unit is closely maintained and an interest in and participation in school activities is encouraged. Most parents show a keen interest in the work of the group and the school and visit whenever possible. This is not always convenient for them owing to the fact that most have other young children and live a considerable distance from the school.

Marlborough Road Unit

During the period 1966-1967 the Marlborough Road Unit expanded to meet an increasing demand and a second class for the older children was opened in September, 1966.

Class I remained primarily a diagnostic unit admitting children of school age, where educational potential was in doubt. This arrangement has been beneficial to pupils and teachers, providing ample opportunity for the latter and the assistant medical officers visiting the unit to assess the future needs of each child.

In January, 1967, there were 6 children in Class I, including one child with Down's syndrome (Mongolism) and another of low educability both of whom were ascertained during the year and recommended for admission to training centre. Two other children transferred to Class II and there were 5 new admissions during the year, two of whom had other disabilities in addition. The nursery infant syllabus was used as advised by the Inspectorate.

The second class opened with 9 children in 1966 but by January, 1967 the number was increased to 12. During the year one transferred to Glencoe Special Class, another to Danecourt, a third to training centre and one left the County. Two vacancies were filled by transfers from Class I, and two from other schools, instruction continuing on the Infant Syllabus advised by the Inspectorate.

A new welfare assistant was appointed in September, 1967 as her predecessor left the area, but the staff otherwise remains unchanged and continues to provide the stability, educational and social training which the children in their care require.

Close liaison is maintained between the teachers and assistant

medical officers who review the health of the children periodically and perform full assessments when necessary. Equipment is continually being increased and the entire atmosphere created is aimed at helping these handicapped children in their early formative years.

STATISTICAL TABLESMedical Inspection of Pupils Attending Maintained and
Assisted Primary and Secondary SchoolsPeriodic Medical Inspections

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth)	No. of pupils Inspected	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No. (3)	% of Col. 2 (4)	No. (5)	% of Col. 2 (6)
(1)	(2)				
1963 and later	15	15	100.0	-	-
1962	1225	1157	94.5	68	5.5
1961	738	699	94.7	39	5.3
1960	115	144	99.1	1	0.9
1959	791	768	97.1	23	2.9
1958	389	374	96.1	15	3.9
1957	29	29	100.0	-	-
1956	74	70	94.6	4	5.4
1955	614	585	95.3	29	4.7
1954	295	286	96.9	9	3.1
1953	6	6	100.0	-	-
1952 and earlier	170	170	100.0	-	-
Total	4461	4273	95.8	188	4.2

It should be pointed out that the decision as to whether a child's physical condition is "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory" is not subject to any absolute standards. It is a decision required to be made by the medical officer on the spot, dependent on what he considers to be satisfactory at the time of conducting the examination. There is no doubt that the standard required to be reached, to be recorded as satisfactory, varies from doctor to doctor, from place to place and from time to time. There is little doubt also that individual doctors cannot be entirely consistent in making these decisions and can be influenced by relatively unimportant details. Minor fluctuations in the percentage of children recorded as "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory" cannot therefore be considered as reliable indicators of trends

in the health of school children generally, nor as indications of the actual numbers of children whose physique or general health fails to reach any definable standard.

Likewise the numbers of children called for re-inspection depend very much on the individual wishes of the doctors examining them.

Other Inspections

Number of special inspections	..	..	..	..	1168
Number of re-inspections	..	..	..	..	1220
Total	..	..	..	..	2388

Pupils Found to Require Treatment
at Periodic Medical Inspections
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
1963 and later	-	3	3
1962	21	287	300
1961	17	137	150
1960	7	18	21
1959	49	161	205
1958	30	100	125
1957	2	7	9
1956	12	17	28
1955	60	110	165
1954	37	62	92
1953	-	1	1
1952 and earlier	50	9	57
Total	285	912	1156

Defects found by medical inspection during the year

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	Periodic Inspections										Special Inspections	
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total		T		T	O
		T	O	T	O	T	O	T	O				
4	Skin	47	34	1	-	84	50	132	84	(11)		0	(12)
5	Eyes -									(10)			
	a. Vision	38	113	50	7	197	108	285	228	(9)		191	114
	b. Squint	30	22	-	-	23	5	53	27	(8)		32	16
	c. Other	14	7	-	-	25	12	39	19	(7)		21	21
6	Ears -									(6)			
	a. Hearing.. ..	24	84	-	-	18	33	42	117	(5)		45	91
	b. Otitis media	26	25	2	-	3	7	31	32	(4)		7	6
	c. Other	1	-	-	-	5	1	6	1	(3)		13	6
7	Nose and throat	64	192	1	-	67	112	132	304	(2)		68	123
8	Speech.. ..	13	50	-	-	1	8	14	58	(1)		36	28
9	Lymphatic glands	3	50	-	-	2	30	5	80	(0)		4	26
10	Heart	8	26	1	1	5	18	14	45	(9)		19	36
11	Lungs	57	63	-	-	20	27	77	90	(8)		26	46
12	Development -									(7)			
	a. Hernia	5	8	-	-	1	1	6	9	(6)		-	7
	b. Other	5	42	-	-	12	39	17	81	(5)		20	60
13	Orthopaedic -									(4)			
	a. Posture.. ..	2	11	-	-	7	35	9	46	(3)		4	10
	b. Feet	70	111	2	-	136	168	210	279	(2)		68	122
	c. Other	10	44	1	-	20	37	31	81	(1)		47	61
14	Nervous system -									(0)			
	a. Epilepsy	2	2	-	-	1	3	3	5	(9)		3	3
	b. Other	5	12	1	-	8	9	14	21	(8)		8	12
15	Psychological -									(7)			
	a. Development..	-	23	-	-	1	3	3	26	(6)		12	30
	b. Stability	15	49	-	-	13	48	28	97	(5)		59	85
16	Abdomen	19	21	-	1	17	23	36	45	(4)		5	5
17	Other	7	31	-	-	7	41	14	72	(3)		11	23

T = Treatment

O = Observation

Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	60
Errors of refraction (including squint)	898
Total	958
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed ..	239

Ophthalmic Clinics

Ophthalmic clinics are held at the School Clinic at Balmoral Gardens and conducted by a consultant working on a sessional basis. The work of the clinic may be summarised thus:

Sessions	44
Number of children examined for first time.. ..	200
Number of children re-examined.. .. .	636
Total attendances	836
Glasses prescribed.. .. .	239
Glasses not required or no change necessary ..	539
Referred to hospital	20

Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment	
(a) for diseases of the ear	-
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	28
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	20
Received other forms of treatment	-
Total.. .. .	48
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids	
(a) in 1966	8
(b) in previous years.. .. .	24

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) pupils treated at clinics or out- patients departments	5
(b) pupils treated at school for postural defects	47
Total.. .. .	52

Diseases of the Skin

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm - (a) scalp	-
(b) body	-
Scabies	8
Impetigo	3
Other skin diseases	4
Total.. .. .	15

Child Guidance

A total of 15 children from Gillingham were treated at the Kent Education Committee's clinic in Chatham. There has been considerable pressure on this clinic which serves a wide area and the waiting list has varied throughout the years. There has never been any difficulty in arranging for priority in the treatment of urgent cases.

Speech therapy

Speech therapy is under the control of the Kent County Council. A clinic is held at Marlborough Road, at which 33 cases were treated in the year. In addition, a speech therapist worked in some of the schools being particularly busy at Danecourt Day E.S.N. school.

There is a waiting list of 17 urgent and 17 non-urgent school and pre-school children needing speech therapy and the average waiting period for non-urgent cases is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ years. The effect of this waiting period on some children is for bad speech habits to become further ingrained, other children have eventually developed normal speech by the end of their waiting period.

Other Treatment Given

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments ..	123
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements	-
(c) Pupils who have received B.C.G. vaccination.. .. .	813
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above	-
Total (a) - (d)	936

Provision of Milk

Milk is provided free of charge to all school children. During December, 1967, 10,649 children were supplied with milk each day.

This represents 81% of the total number of children on the roll. These figures include pupils in independent schools.

Summary of Health Visitors' Work in Schools in Gillingham during 1967

(1)	Total visits to schools	263
(2)	Attendances at routine medical inspection.. ..	93
(3)	Attendances at clinics	74
(4)	Visits to homes	199
(5)	Examination of heads and bodies re cleanliness	8103
(6)	Notices sent re nits (children not excluded from school)	36
(7)	Notices sent re nits and vermin (children excluded from school)	48

Infestation with Vermin

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	8103
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	139
(c)	Numbers of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	-
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	-

CONSULTATION CLINICS

During the year 688 children were seen by the school medical officers at their consultation sessions, 64 by home and office appointments and 140 attendances were made at the nurses' sessions. Attendances at the various clinics were as follows:

Gillingham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	452
Rainham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	288
Twydall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	138
Wigmore.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	892

Attendances at treatment clinics

125 children made 185 attendances for inspection and treatment of minor ailments.

Employment of Children

134 pupils were examined for fitness for employment out of school hours and certificates given for all these children.

Staff Medical Examinations

The following medical examinations were carried out and x-ray arrangements made in respect of the following during 1967:

School meals service staff	..	..	..	..	..	62
Caretakers and cleaners	..	..	..	..	..	24
Prospective student teachers..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Teachers..	..	..	..	..	..	51
Clerical and other staff..	..	..	..	..	..	141
Total	..	..	..	..	..	359

DENTAL SERVICES

The following is the report of Mr. E.D. Gimson, Dental Surgeon:

"Since my last report there have been a number of changes in the dental clinic at Balmoral Gardens.

A new x-ray machine has been installed and is now in frequent use. It has proved very useful so far and is a great time saver.

A small darkroom has been fitted out in the store room adjacent to the surgery and although there is no running water the darkroom has so far been found quite satisfactory.

Further improvements in the clinic have been made by the tiling of the floors in the passages and the dental surgery has been decorated recently and has been appreciated by both patients and parents alike.

There still continues to be a heavy demand for dental treatment which still greatly exceeds the surgery time available. Since last year it has been the policy to complete as far as possible all treatments arising from a school inspection before visiting another school.

During the past year two post graduate courses have been attended. One on local government administration was held at the offices of the British Dental Association in London. The other on the problems and treatment of the pre-school child and handicapped child was held in Cheltenham."

Attendances and Treatment

	<u>Ages</u> <u>5 to 9</u>	<u>Ages</u> <u>10 to 14</u>	<u>Ages</u> <u>15 and over</u>	<u>Total</u>
First visit	1061	414	41	1516
Subsequent visits.. ..	1728	1227	187	3142
Total visits	2789	1641	228	4658
Additional courses of treatment commenced.. ..	292	87	20	399
Fillings in permanent teeth	553	916	161	1630
Fillings in deciduous teeth	1630	104	-	1734
Permanent teeth filled ..	509	795	129	1433
Deciduous teeth filled ..	1533	91	-	1624
Permanent teeth extracted..	45	82	11	138
Deciduous teeth extracted..	315	90	-	405
General anaesthetics	99	27	-	126
Emergencies	200	35	7	242
Number of pupils x-rayed.. ..	..	..	..	130
Prophylaxis .. .. .	..	..	..	228
Teeth otherwise conserved ..	..	..	..	645
Number of teeth root filled ..	..	..	..	3
Inlays .. .. .	..	..	..	-
Crowns .. .. .	..	..	..	-
Courses of treatment completed ..	..	..	..	1102

Orthodontics

Cases remaining from previous year	46
New cases commenced during year	19
Cases completed during year	8
Cases discontinued during year	4
No. of removable appliances fitted	35
No. of fixed appliances fitted	1
Pupils referred to hospital consultant	1

Prosthetics

	<u>Age Groups</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>5 - 9</u> <u>years</u>	<u>10 - 14</u> <u>years</u>	<u>15 years</u> <u>and over</u>	
Pupils supplied with F.U. or F.L. (first time).. ..	-	-	-	-
Pupils supplied with other dentures (first time) ..	1	2	-	3
Number of dentures supplied	-	-	-	-

Anaesthetics

General anaesthetics administered by medical
officers.. .. 126

Inspections

(a) First inspection at school -
number of pupils 7866

(b) First inspection at clinic -
number of pupils 694

Number of (a) + (b) found to require
treatment 3399

Number of (a) + (b) offered treatment.. .. 2982

(c) Pupils re-inspected at school or clinic .. 306

Number of (c) found to require treatment .. 216

Sessions

Sessions devoted to treatment 730

Sessions devoted to inspection.. .. 45

Sessions devoted to dental health education .. -

I N D E X

Animal Boarding Establishments	40
Atmospheric Pollution	18, 29
Ante natal care.. .. .	48, 51
Attendances - welfare centres and clinics	51
B.C.G. Vaccination	66, 104
Births - illegitimate	7, 8
- legitimate.. .. .	7, 8
- live and still.. .. .	7, 8
Blind and partially sighted.. .. .	78, 79, 80, 81
Cancer	11
Caravans	41
Centres and clinics - attendances	50, 51
Children at risk	57, 58
Child guidance	104
Child minders	63
Chiropody	78
Condemned food - disposal	28
Consultation clinics	106
Counselling clinic	59, 60, 61, 62, 63
Cytology clinic.. .. .	67
Danecourt School	93, 94
Deaf	82
Deaths - infants - ages and causes	8, 9, 10
- rates	7, 8, 9, 11, 16
Dental services.. .. .	107
Diphtheria immunisation.. .. .	65, 66
District nursing service	64
Domestic help service	68
- maternity cases	68
- year's work	69, 70, 71, 72
Drainage	40
Early neo-natal mortality	7
Employment of children	106

Factories	30
- details of defects	34, 35
- inspections for purposes of provision as to health	30, 34, 35
- outwork	36
Family help service.. .. .	68
Family care.. .. .	68
Family welfare service	68, 69, 70, 71
Fluoridation of water supplies	46
Food - hygiene	18, 22, 23, 26, 27
- sampling.. .. .	23, 24, 25, 26
Foodstuffs surrendered	28
Forward.. .. .	1, 2, 47
Handicapped persons.. .. .	78
- pupils	89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94
- unit.. .. .	89, 90, 96, 97, 98
Hard of hearing.. .. .	82
Health education	48
Health visiting.. .. .	53, 54, 55, 56
- home visits	56
- schools	54, 105
- staff	55
Home nursing service	64
- record of patients nursed	64
- staff	64
Housing	
- action under statutory powers	21
- informal action	19, 21
- inspection of dwelling houses	18, 21
Houses in multiple occupation	20
Ice cream	25
Immunisation	65
- diphtheria	65
- tetanus	65
- whooping cough	65
Infant mortality	7, 8, 12
Infant welfare services.. .. .	50, 51
Infectious diseases.. .. .	13, 14, 15, 16, 40
Infestation with vermin.. .. .	38, 105
Inspection and supervision of food premises.. .. .	18, 22, 23
Luncheon clubs	72, 73, 83

Marlborough Road Unit	97
Maternity services	48
Maternal mortality	8, 9
Meals on wheels.. .. .	72
Medical inspection - defects	101
- treatment	100
Mental health service	74
Midwifery service	49
- staff	49
- visits by midwife	49
Milk supply.. .. .	28
- licensing	27
- registrations	26, 27
- sampling.. .. .	27, 28
Mortality - infant	7, 12
- maternal	8
- neo-natal	7
- peri-natal	7
Neo-natal mortality.. .. .	7
Night attendance and evening service	71, 72
Noise abatement.. .. .	41
Notices - informal	19
- statutory.. .. .	19
Notification of infectious diseases.. .. .	13, 14
Nuisances, details of	18, 19
Nurseries and child minders.. .. .	63
Nursing equipment - loan of.. .. .	67
Nursing homes	17
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	30, 31, 32, 33
Old People's Welfare Officer	83, 84
Ophthalmic clinics	102
Orthopaedic and postural defects	103
Outworkers	36
Overcrowding	20
Partially hearing units.. .. .	95, 96
Pet Animals Act.. .. .	41
Peri-natal mortality	7
Periodic medical inspections	99, 100

Physically Handicapped Unit	75
Poliomyelitis vaccination.. .. .	65
Population	7, 11
Premature babies	52
- deaths of	52
Prevention of illness, care and after-care	67
Recuperative care.. .. .	67
Relaxation and mothercraft	48
Riding establishments.. .. .	40
Rodent and insect pests	37, 38
Sampling - milk	26, 27, 28
School health service.. .. .	86, 87, 88, 89
Scrap metal dealers	41
Sewerage	42, 43
Slum clearance	20, 21
Smallpox vaccination	66
Smoke control areas	29
Special schools	89, 90, 93, 94
Speech therapy	104
Staff - health, school health service and delegated health service.. .. .	3, 4, 5, 6
- medical inspections	106
Statistics	
- area	7
- atmospheric pollution.. .. .	18
- births	7, 8
- blind.. .. .	80
- cancer	11
- consultation clinics	106
- day nurseries.. .. .	63
- deaths	7, 8, 12
- dental	108, 109
- domestic help service.. .. .	69, 70, 71, 72
- eye diseases	102
- home nursing service	64
- immunisation and vaccination	65, 66
- infant mortality	7, 8, 12
- infectious diseases	13, 14, 15, 16
- maternal mortality	8

Statistics

- medical inspections: defects	101
- medical inspections: treatment.. .. .	100
- neo-natal deaths	7
- partially sighted	80
- periodic medical inspections	99
- population.. .. .	7, 11
- skin diseases	103
- stillbirths	7, 13
- tuberculosis	15, 16
- vital	7, 8
- vermin infestation.. .. .	105
- welfare centres	51
Stillbirths	7
Swimming bath water	39
 Tetanus - immunisation	65
Training centres	75
Treatment clinics.. .. .	106
Tuberculosis	15, 16
- B.C.G. vaccination.. .. .	66, 104
- Register	15, 16
- Care and after-care	67
 Vaccination - B.C.G.	66, 104
- Poliomyelitis	65
- Smallpox	66
Venereal disease	17
Vital statistics	7
Violence	11
 Water supply	44, 45, 46
Welfare centres	50
- attendances	51
Welfare and mental health service.. .. .	74
Whooping cough	65
- vaccination	65
Workplaces	30, 31
Workshop employment	34, 35

